FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 NOVEMBER 1983

PLO Affairs

Tripoli Cease-Fire Arrangements — Former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami, after discussing arrangements for implementing the cease-fire agreement with a delegation from Tripoli, announced in remarks broadcast by Damascus television that Palestinian fighters who came to Tripoli from abroad must leave Lebanon; others who were "originally" in the north must choose between leaving or returning to the refugee camps. As for the "fighters of the upheaval," they must return to the refugee camps, albeit "not necessarily to Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid," Karami added. During their meeting in Damascus, Karami and the Tripoli leaders decided to establish committees for political, social, and security affairs to assist with the arrangements, the television reported.

In Tripoli, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat told a Cairo newspaper that he expects a new offensive and that his forces will therefore leave Tripoli only after the arrival of an Arab force to ensure the safety of fighters and civilians in the city, Radio Monte Carlo reported. Earlier, Fatah dissident leader Sa'id Musa Muragha said his side will never agree to an Arab force to supervise the agreement, according to Turbul Voice of Palestinian Revolution radio. Muragha said his men will stay in their camps to protect them from any "Zionist" attack and he appealed to 'Arafat's fighters to return to positions in the front-line against Israel.

Relations With USSR — In a telegram to 'Arafat broadcast by Moscow radio and Algiers Voice of Palestine, the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium stressed that unity is an "indispensable condition" for the PLO's success, which also requires close cooperation between the PLO and those Arab countries which stand in the "front ranks of resistance to the U.S. and Israeli aggressive and expansionist designs." The telegram expressed concern that "the situation now in this respect leaves something to be desired."

Meanwhile, a PLO spokesman denied the Egyptian paper *AL-AKHBAR* report that 'Arafat recently criticized the Soviet Union for siding with Syria, according to AFP. "Clarifying" his comments in a subsequent interview in Kuwait's *AL-ANBA'*, according to KUNA, 'Arafat called the USSR "an ally of Syria and a friend of the PLO." He noted that Soviet arms shipments meant for the PLO had been seized by the Syrians.

Khalaf Interview — Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, in an interview with the London magazine *AL-MAJALLAH*, warned that the PLO will not allow the Palestinian revolution to be destroyed and will resort to "all forms of struggle" to reestablish its presence in "arenas close to the occupied territories." If there is an "exodus" from Tripoli, "those who have slaughtered our people should expect anything," he said. The Fatah leadership will employ "terror" against those who attacked and conspired against the PLO, starting with the Palestinian "traitors and agents," and then striking against "other arenas from which harm has come to us."

Lebanon

Political Developments — President Amin al-Jumayyil held talks at the Vatican and with the Italian Government, specifically concerning the Italian contingent's role and contribution in Lebanon, Beirut radio reported.

In another development, the Libyan charge d'affaires departed Beirut on 28 November, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. Iranian Presidential adviser Mostafa Mirsalim toured Islamic Revolution guard positions and headquarters in the Al-Biqa' region, particularly those bombed in the French and Israeli air raids, according to IRNA and Tehran radio.

Meanwhile, a Hezbollah official in Ba'labakk warned that the Multinational Forces must leave Lebanon "or else there will be nothing between us and them other than fighting." In a statement eulogizing those killed in the French and Israeli air raids reported by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon, the official pledged that "death will reach" the Multinational Forces "at the hands of the believers."

Military Developments — One U.S. Marine was wounded and the contingent put on maximum alert when their positions around Beirut airport were shelled, the Voice of Lebanon reported. The radio added that Lebanese Army positions in the mountain and Khaldah regions and Beirut's southern suburb also came under artillery and rocket fire, while Beirut radio said that Army positions around Suq al-Gharb were heavily shelled.

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'Arafat Criticizes Libya, U.S., Syria

Cairo AL-AKHBAR Interview

NC270802 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0622 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 27 Nov (MENA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has emphasized that Egypt is the big sister that leads the area. He said that whenever Egypt distances itself from a leading and pioneering role, setbacks occur.

In an exclusive interview with *AL-AKHBAR* published today, 'Arafat said: Some Arab leaders whose countries border Egypt, and by this I mean "the colonel," believe that whoever pays a few piasters can impose a pioneering and leading role.

In his interview with *AL-AKHBAR*, Yasir 'Arafat affirmed that what is now taking place is a completion of the conspiracy to finish the Palestinian resistance so that Syria will become the only agent [al-wakil al-washid] in the area. In saying this, 'Arafat cited as evidence the statement made only 3 days ago by U.S. Secretary of State Shultz to the effect that the battle for the north — Tripoli — will determine the fate of the Middle East. 'Arafat added: Shultz has not said this before. This Syrian-U.S. deal was planned by of Syrian Chief of Staff Hikmat ash-Shihabi. Its objective is to partition the area into sectarian statelets so as to justify the Jewish presence in it. He said that, through the dissidence, Syria is causing the Palestinian image to fade before the world.

In his interview, Yasir 'Arafat said the PLO has not received even one gun from the Soviet Union since the battle of Beirut. He noted that Moscow is completely partial to Damascus. 'Arafat said he believed the Soviet presence will vanish from the area if the Palestinian revolution is crippled. He also indicated that the Soviet Embassy in Beirut is vulnerable.

In concluding his interview, 'Arafat warned that if a defeat is sustained in this battlefield, meaning Tripoli, the partitioning conspiracy will be implemented in Lebanon. He said: Our presence in Tripoli is meant to protect its residents who have asked us for protection; otherwise, a massacre will take place — just like the one that occurred in Hamah.

Spokesman Denies Reported Remarks

NC281844 Paris AFP in English 1835 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Nicosia, Nov 28 (AFP) — A Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) spokesman today denied remarks, attributed to PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat, "hostile to the Soviet Union's attitude concerning the situation in north Lebanon," the Palestinian WAFA news agency reported here. Mr. 'Arafat was quoted in the Egyptian daily *AL-AKHBAR* as saying that between Damascus and the PLO, the Soviet Union had chosen "the Syrian ally." He was also quoted as saying that since the Syrians confiscated a cargo of Soviet arms for the PLO after the battle of Beirut last summer, the Soviet Union had not supplied the Palestinians with any weapons.

WAFA quoted the spokesman as saying the reported remarks were "baseless." "Yasir 'Arafat said nothing of the sort on this matter," the spokesman said. "The PLO greatly appreciates the attitude of the Soviet Union and its support for the PLO and its traditional leaders."

Clarifies Comments on USSR

LD290958 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0823 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait, 29 Nov (KUNA) — PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has affirmed that the USSR is "an ally of Syria and a friend of the PLO." In a statement to the Kuwaiti paper *AL-ANBA'*, published here today, 'Arafat said that the USSR finds itself between the hammer and the anvil through its friendship with the Palestinians and its alliance with Syria. At present, he said, the USSR is Syria's ally through its treaty of friendship.

'Arafat was apparently clarifying a recent statement he made that was interpreted as an attack on the USSR. Palestinian sources in Tunis denied last night that 'Arafat actually attacked Soviet officials.

'Arafat said: "They asked me about the Soviet position and I replied that the Soviets are between the hammar and the anvil, between the Palestinian friends and the Syrian ally. At present they are allies through their treaty of friendship with Syria. That was my reply." He added: "When they asked me about the arms, I replied that the USSR sent us arms but the arms were seized in the Syrian arsenals. I said: How could they send us arms via Syria?"

The Egyptian paper *AL-AKHBAR* had stated that the PLO chairman had issued threats against any Soviet presence in Lebanon, reporting that he had said that "we will eliminate the Soviet presence in Lebanon and the Soviet Embassy in Beirut is not too far away."

On relations between the PLO and the Lebanese authorities, Abu 'Ammar said: "My last meeting with the Lebanese authorities was at the Delhi nonaligned conference when I met with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil. I abide by what we agreed upon."

"Unless Arab military observers arrive in Tripoli," he said, "the cease-fire agreement that was announced following the intensive meetings held among Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, and two of our colleagues, Khalid al-Hasan and Rafiq an-Natshah, will always be open to violation, thereby creating an extremely dangerous situation." Abu 'Ammar pointed out that the cease-fire and the agreement "constitute more than one avenue for the creation of a new relationship that we were and are anxious to have through a Syrian-Palestinian dialogue so that we may be able to face the enemy of our Arab nation together. The enemy is world Zionism and American imperialism."

'Arafat announced that the PNC will be summoned following the normalization of conditions in northern Lebanon, "that is, following the removal of the military concentrations around the city and the reaching of agreement with the Arab Higher Coordination Committee and Arab observers on the removal of all causes of tension, including the removal of the forces brought in lately

to defend the city in the face of any Syrian-Libyan offensive carried out with the help of their agents in the Palestinian arena."

'Arafat said that the recent battles in the Tripoli area led to the destruction of large sections of the camps and the city of Tripoli. They also destroyed the oil refinery, the harbor, the water, electricity, and firefighting services in addition to killing thousands of Lebanese and Palestinians as a result of the aggression.

'Arafat declared that Tripoli is not and will not be his headquarters, affirming that "my political headquarters is in Tunisia and my military headquarters are in San'a'. As soon as conditions return to normal, I shall return to my headquarters. I came here only because our forces and our people were exposed to massacres. I considered it my duty by virtue of my position and responsibility to be here with them in this ordeal."

'Arafat said that he will consider with the coordination committee security guarantees for the camps so that the tragedy of Sabra and Shatilah will not be repeated and that he will discuss the idea of placing Arab forces in northern Tripoli. He added that any matters affecting the camps should be settled with the Lebanese authorities so that they would be lasting and legitimate.

On the question of dialogue between the PLO and Jordan, 'Arafat said: "The continued existence of the Joint Palestinian-Jordanian committee is one form of the common desire for the continuation of this dialogue. I have done nothing of my own. I am entrusted with the implementation of the PLO's political program on the basis of which I was elected. The program provides for the establishment of a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation."

'Arafat warned against any balkanization of the region, saying that "what is taking place at present is an American plot sponsoring Israel's view for the partitioning of Lebanon into communes as a prelude to complete balkanization of the region."

Abu 'Ammar denied that there is a conflict between the PLO and some of the Lebanese wings, saying: "There has never been any conflict between us and any of the factions fighting Zionism and Israel on our side." He added: "We have conflicts only with those who refuse to fight Israel and to take a hostile stand against the United States."

Syrian Paratroops in Tripoli

NC282120 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] In Tripoli, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who has declared his commitment to the Syrian-Saudi agreement on restoring peace in Tripoli and in northern Lebanon, said he will continue the talks concerning the implementation of the agreement, but that he fears a new military action against his forces. Arafat was speaking at an unexpected news conference he held this afternoon in Az-Zahiriyah quarter north of Tripoli. He said the Syrian forces brought a new paratroop battalion to Tripoli yesterday.

Charges U.S. 'Conspiracy'

LD281122 Kuwait KUNA in English 1008 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Nov 28 (KUNA) — PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat was quoted as saying Monday the U.S. is directly behind the conspiracy being implemented by Israeli and Arab hands with the aim of liquidating the Palestinian cause and the PLO. In a message to the Arab people on the occasion of the international day for solidarity with the Palestinian people, 'Arafat charged that the U.S. and international Zionism are seeking to obliterate the Palestinian rights.

The Palestinian leader, currently entrenched in Tripoli confronting Syrian and Libyan backed rebels, said the refugee camps in north Lebanon are currently undergoing destructive acts, and their inhabitants are facing the danger of being driven away from their homes, same as happened in Beirut and south Lebanon. 'Arafat said, however, the Palestinian commando organization would not allow the destruction of the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and would maintain the unity of the PLO.

He reiterated that no security or peace would be achieved in the Middle East before the full recognition of the Palestinian people, particularly their right to return to their motherland, and establish their independent state there. The PLO accepts the international resolutions relating to the recognition of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, 'Arafat said.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Comments

PM290937 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 26 Nov 83
pp 1,2

[Interview by telephone with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* correspondent in London on 25 November]

[Excerpts] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat asserted to *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* yesterday that the PLO has welcomed and still welcomes the Saudi initiative to resolve the present crisis and end the fighting in Lebanon. It also welcomes the agreement reached, provided that the other side will abide by it. He praised the attitudes of King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Crown Prince 'Abdallah and their efforts to protect the Palestinian people and the Palestinian revolution.

In a telephone contact *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* had with him in his headquarters in Tripoli, during which his military deputy Khalil al-Wazir, Abu Jihad, was present, 'Arafat said that the Palestinian revolution's position is "as strong as steel" and asserted that the victory the revolution is seeking is in Palestine and not elsewhere. He several times repeated: "Break the glad tidings to the patient ones."

'Arafat said in the interview that so far he has accepted four initiatives to end the crisis which he stressed was not "Palestinian but Syrian-Palestinian" and added that this was the fifth initiative, but that what matters is good will on the other side and the adherence of the other parties to the agreement.

'Arafat revealed that assassination squads had infiltrated Tripoli primarily with the aim of assassinating him and Abu Jihad. He said: "We have arrested some of them and investigations regarding them has begun; others are still at large."

He added: "When I speak about good will, it is in light of the preparations I can see aimed at launchinga large-scale attack on the city (Tripoli) within a few hours."

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT asked 'Arafat about the question of "departure" and to where will it be. He said that this was one of the points which delayed agreement. He said: I would like to affirm that our presence in Tripoli is not an end in itself. We care for our case just as we care for Tripoli and its heroic people. As for the details, they will be discussed shortly and every person will go back to theplace he has come from.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT asked him about the conditions of his departure and the possibility of his flying in Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's private plane. He said: "As you can hear, I am here. As I said, I did not ask to reside in Tripoli; all I asked for is guarantees for the protection of our people and for the cressation of conspiracies against the Palestine problem and the PLO."

Asked about the nature of the guarantees, he said: They are being discussed and the details will be worked out shortly. In fact I cannot accept anything that does not include a definite guarantee for our people's safety in the camps and the safety of the people of Tripoli, of whom we are proud and whom we thank for their fraternal sentiments, chivalry, and hospitality. Briefly, I will not allow another Sabra and Shatila to take place after today.

'Arafat added: I would like to welcome and praise the generous Saudi initiative and the sincere efforts to defend our cause and our people. I would like to thank His Majesty Kind Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz for their stands and for their frank and bold statements which have dotted the I's with regard to this major conspiracy against the Palestine problem and the Palestinian people.

Asked about his call for a Arab minisummit to include Saudi Arabia, Syria, Kuwait, Tunisia, and Algeria, 'Arafat said that the proposal is still being discussed and we hope to receive a reply to it shortly.

Speaking about the exchange of prisoners, he described it as "a major political victory for the Palestinian revolution." He then addressed the following appeal to Palestinian people:

To my people inside and outside the occupied territory: I wish to congratulate 6,000 Palestinian, Lebanese, and Syrian families (226 of those released consisted of Syrians and some other Arabs). We who have been under seige in Tripoli have been able to bring back smiles to the faces of those families who are now welcoming their heroes who were set free from Ansar detention camp and Israeli prisons. We tell them that this, God willing, is a step on the road to Jerusalem. We shall, God willing, return to our Arab Jerusalem in order to be able to pray in the Al-Aqsa mosque.

'Arafat addressed another appeal to "my people in the occupied territory, the steadfast heroes who, in the most difficult circumstances, proved to be a tributary to the revolution and a shield protecting this revolution. We tell them we uphold our pledge and stick to our oath. We shall meet soon and the time for our meeting will be in the morning. Will it not soon be morning?" [poetic locution based on concept of morning inevitably following dark night]

Concluding, 'Arafat replied strongly to those who claim that the PLO is finished, saying that the PLO will remain and will continue to hold the banner. He wondered: When Begin marshalled the biggest military force and the latest Israeli weapons [against the PLO], did he not say that the PLO would be finished within 3 days? Where is Begin now? He went mad because he failed, the Americans are involved, and Reagan and his fleets are bogged down in Lebanon.

Fatah's Salah Khalaf Views Revolution's Future

PM281331 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 26 Nov-2 Dec 83 pp 21-22

[Interview with Salah Khalaf, Fatah Central Committee member, by Salih Qallab in Tunis — date not specified]

[Excerpts] Question: Do you see any possibility of reaching a political solution to the current conflict in Tripoli in the foreseeable future?

Answer: Despite the attempts to project the current fighting as being inter-Palestinian, the solutions being proposed are aimed at consolidating the cease-fire on the basis of a political solution and at dealing with the internal Palestinian problems away from external interferecne and within the legitimate Palestinian institutions. But I believe that Syria is not yet convinced of such a solution. There are Arab attempts at mediation; the Gulf, the Algerian, and the Tunisian mediations as well as efforts by the two parts of Yemen. But all these mediations have come up against a wall of silence and have not achieved the desired results. I personally believe that if the crisis is not dealt with and the Syrian and Libyan intereference is not ended there will be considerable difficulty in putting an end to the present situation in tripoli.

Question: What, in your opinion, do the Syrians want?

Answer: Events have proved for the first time that the Syrians probably do not want Abu Salih (the dissident leader) nor do they want a PLO with independent decisionmaking. All they want is a Palestinian card.

Question: Questions are being asked about the Soviet Union's attitude toward the present dispute. Some people believe that Moscow supports the Syrian plan in view of the extensive military cooperation between the Soviet Union and Syria.

Answer: We are confused by what is happening. The Soviet Union is probably even more so. I believe the Soviet Union is concerned and worried more than any other country in the world because of what is happening between Syria and the PLO. Moscow has sent several messages to us and to Syria deploring what is happening, which means certain things happen in the area

without the knowledge of the Soviet Union. I am certain that the "Soviet comrades" are in an uneviable position: On the one hand they are faced with proclaimed Syrian stands that agree with their policies while on the other they are faced with actions that are quite incompatible with such stands.

Question: Is it true that Moscow addressed warnings to Syria regarding its relations with the PLO?

Answer: I cannot say that Moscow addressed warnings to Syria. I have seen nothing to this effect. But, according to our knowledge, the Soviet Union is not accustomed to addressing warnings. All I know is that Moscow is not pleased with the Palestinian-Syrian conflict.

Question: Before the recent developments there were conflicting reports about relations between Moscow and the PLO and about the visit which 'Arafat was supposed to make to Moscow.

Answer: Brother Abu 'Ammar was supposed to visit Moscow before going to Tripoli but President Andropov was on vacation. The visit was later postponed because Abu 'Ammar was busy with the fighting in northern Lebanon. There is no strain in relations between us and the Soviet Union. There is a at present large Soviet delegation in Tunis in order to watch the situation and convey our views to the Soviet leadership.

Question: Some people say that Abu 'Ammar went to Tripoli as a gesture of defiance while others say he went there as an approach to reconciliation with Syria. Why did he go back to Tripoli?

Answer: Abu 'Ammar went to Tripoli when there was a possibility of a new war breaking out following the Israeli army's withdrawal from the mountain area. Some of us, including Abu 'Ammar, realized the real significance of the mountain war. Nevertheless, we had to throw our weight on the side of the Lebanese nationalists and Syria in case the confrontation exacerbated. For this reason, Abu 'Ammar took the risk in order to be at the head of his forces and to take part in the battle with the means available to him. But following his arrival in Tripoli tools of the Syrian regime, both Palestinians and Lebanese, Launched a campaign to cast doubts on the reason for Abu 'Ammar's return to Tripoli. The efforts then switched from the war in the mountain area and confronting the Americans to ousting the Palestinians from Al-Biqa' in the manner well known to all. This attitude was made even clearer by the request to Abu 'Ammar to leave Tripoli and by the war of annihilation against the Palestinian camps. Meanwhile, the talk about confronting the U.S. fleets was continuing.

Question: You claim that there is a plan to liquidate 'Arafat physically and politically. Have you such a plan or do you have documents?

Answer: Several attempts have been made to assassinate Abu 'Ammar, some of them reported and others not. The time will come when we reveal all these attempts. But what is more serious is the attempt to assassinate independent Palestinian decisionmaking. What is being sought is to kill the Palestinian people's will embodied in Yasir 'Arafat. I do not think that there is a dispute between them and Yasir 'Arafat personally. If Abu 'Ammar renounced Palestinian legitimacy and abandoned independent palestinian decisionmaking, all attacks against him would stop.

Question: Suppose the balance of power forced you to get out of Tripoli. What would the future of Palestinian action be?

Answer: Tripoli is not our last position. The PLO is not a geographical position; it is the will of the Palestinian people wherever it exists. We left Beirut under the pressure of foreign aggression. But now in Tripoli it is an Arab side that is trying to get us out. We wonder: Did the Arab nation give this Arab side the green light to liquidate the Palestine problem? Does any Arab side have the right to appoint itself guardian of the Lebanese state so as to decide to expel us from Tripili? We are on Lebanese territory, and the Lebanese people alone have the right to ask us to leave.

Brother Abu 'Ammar will not allow Tripoli to be destroyed and brought down on the heads of its children, old people, and women. I wonder why the Arabs do not ask the attacking party to save Tripoli and lift the siege. It is the same Israeli game when, in order to save Beirut, they asked us to leave instead of breaking the Israeli siege of the city.

Question: What would be the future of the PLO and Fatah in the event of withdrawal from Tripoli?

Answer: It is true that departure from Tripoli, should it happen, would deprive us of a principal base, but there are other forms of struggle. Frankly, I would say that we will resort to other means because we will not allow our revolution to be destroyed without our taking revenge. We will not remain silent.

Question: Does this mean that you are contemplating returning to terror?

Answer: I do not say terror, but I would affirm that we will resort to all forms of struggle in order to reestablish our presence in arenas close to the occupied territories.

Question: We would like to hear from you about the slogan of the new stage which you are talking about.

Answer: First, we must preserve the PLO and international recognition of it and adhere to the Palestinian action programs, particularly with regard to our people's right to self-determination and establishment a state of their own. I also would like to say that the time has come for the Palestinian action to be divided into a group of "rationals" and a group of "adventurers" or "madmen." The group of "rationals" will continue to puruse the previous course while the "adventurers" will carry out all kinds of violent actions which the world has known. We as a leadership may be unable to carry out this kind of action, but certainly there are scores and even hundreds of young men who are thinking of such methods and whose ideas will sooner or later materialize into real action. If there is an exodus from Tripoli and a sixth emigration takes place, those who have slaughtered our people should expect anything. They are driving our revolution toward despair which will soon explode in their faces. I

cannot predict things, but I am certain that the coming stage will be that of "rationals" and "madmen."

Question: Do you expect operations of any particular kind against certain Arab countries?

Answer: I do not wish to talk because talk is of no avail. Actions alone will talk, and the time for them will be soon.

Question: Is it true that the recent Fatah conference adopted the return to terror or "violent terror," as you call it?

Answer: The fact is that many members of the regional commands and various organs recommended the adoption of violent terror to the leadership. Such terror will not be confined only to the arena of the occupied territories. We will not direct it against Europe, as some would imagine, but against those who dared to attack the revolution after it had established itself on the ground. There is a call for secrecy and we will combine secrecy with violence.

Question: Against whom will you direct such violence?

Answer: We will direct it against all those who were involved in the conspiracy against us, beginning with the Palestinians who conspired against their people and revolution, because what the dissidents did was the most dangerous of all. Relying on their previous record, they turned into an army of intelligence against their own people and revolution. They are even more dangerous than Abu Nidal because they are trying to give their conspiracy and political framework. Fatah's statutes provide for the execution of anyone working for an Arab or foreign state against the revolution, not to mention those who are manipulated by non-Palestinian forces in order to kill their own people.

Question: Do we understand from this that the decision to dismiss the dissidents is a prelude to executing them?

Answer: I believe that it is they who have shed their own blood. What they have done is worse than high treason. At the beginning we tried not to harm them, but they have gone beyond all limits. At the beginning we will direct violence toward the Palestinian arena so that we will bring the traitors and agents to account. After that we will direct it toward other arenas from which harm has come to us. We will have no honor if we do not avenge the movement's honor, the revolution's honor, and our people's honor. As to how and when, everything will come in due course.

Question: Do you believe that there is a possibility of reconsidering your attitude toward the Reagan plan if it is improved or altered?

Answer: I believe that accepting the plan is tantamount to suicide. I must stress here that the present battles should not cause us to deviate from our principles. We are in confrontation with the Americans, and therefore the conspiracy is directed against us. In the American equation, we are rejected, but despair should not drive us to political suicide. With regard to our view of the settlement in general, I would say that it has reached a dead end. This will drive us toward a harder line and rejection of the Reagan plan and the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

Question: We recently heard that you are prepared to have a dialogue with Jordan. Have you decided to return to dialogue on the basis of Reagan's plan?

Answer: What was wrong was to link the dialogue with Jordan to Reagan's plan. Our relations with Jordan must be normal and should have nothing to do with Reagan's plan. I would like to ask: Is the dispute between us and Jordan worse than the dispute between us and Syria? I say at the top of my voice: I am in favor of relations with Jordan.

Baghdad Voice of PLO Comment on Cease-Fire

Warning of 'Trap'

JN271852 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1651 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] When our revolution accepts the cease-fire, it is not only responding to the mediators' calls, but does so out of its concern for stopping the bloodshed and preventing attempts to distract it from fighting the Zionist enemy, or to consume its potentials in battles that it neither wants nor seeks with the Syrian regime. This general principle that governs our revolution's behavior and the behavior of its historical legitimate leadership under Brother Abu 'Ammar does not mean presenting the head of the revolution — command and decisionmaking — on a plate of gold to anyone, regardless of his means to achieve this end. Furthermore, our acceptance of the cease-fire is subject to the stand of the aggressors' side, that is, the Syrian side. This means that we will open fire if they reopen fire, out of self-defense, on our part.

In addition to this, we say that we will not allow the cease-fire to become a trap that harms our revolution or through which we could be deceived and made to feel relaxed. In other words, while we affirm our adherence to the cease-fire, we will keep our fingers on the trigger in preparation for self-defense at any moment. We realize that the cease-fire does not mean halting the conspiracy which the Syrian rulers are trying to perpetrate against our revolution.

So far, we have not seen any sign, either in statements or through hints, of the conspiracy being halted. The facts in the field prove otherwise: the Syrian regime continues to escalate the situation by sending more military reinforcements to tighten the siege of Tripoli through preparations to attack the port in order to complete the circle of this siege around the city as part of an attempt to prevent the arrival of defensive reinforcements and support for the forces of our revolution.

We support the cease-fire. This is an axiomatic and needs no discussion or argument. But we do not see life for this cease-fire unless the conspiracy is halted. This is what the mediators should do. They must end the conspiracy and not content themselves with administering sedatives whose effectiveness might disappear in the fever of the liquidatory conspiracy.

Syrian Motives Questioned

JN272146 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1628 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] So far, it does not seem that the agreement that was announced to end the fighting in northern Lebanon is proceeding in the right direction. The reason for this impression, which many observers share with the command of the Palestinian revolution, is that Damascus and its midget agents are fabricating statements and stands and showing no inclination to abide by what was announced in the agreement.

In this respect, we note the following: first, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's insistence on deviating from the purpose of the press conference, at which the agreement was announced, to focus on the personal objective of the Damascus regime — the departure of Brother Abu 'Ammar from Tripoli; second, the repeated announcements by the symbols of the dissidence movement, or by Ahmad Jibril's group, that they have nothing to do with the agreement or that they agree to it but without the understanding that the agreement obliges them to withdraw from Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi; third, the nonachievement, 3 days after the agreement was announced, of any specific and practical measures on how this agreement will be implemented.

These points are not a good omen and give the impression that the Damascus regime and its agents are inclined to tamper with the agreement either through the game of exchanging roles or through plunging it into ambiguity, and some of its expressions seem to encourage such a trend. If this impression materializes, an impression which does not lack objective bases, we will undoubtedly be at the threshold of the resumption of the fighting over the dead agreement and the martyrs' bodies.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's insistence on announcing why his regime approved the agreement may be interpreted as more than a mere hint and provocation. It may be a preliminary sign that the Damascus regime has not departed from its plan or from the means of carrying it out. If the regime succeeds in making brother leader Abu 'Ammar leave Tripoli under this agreement and continues its attempts to contain the militant body of the revolution and the city of Tripoli, it will view this as something good. This regime will be able, at that time, to replace its overt military war with a series of liquidations and small attacks here and there without raising any noticeable information clamor.

Between this option, which Damascus may imagine it can achieve, and the option of resuming the large-scale military aggression, the Syrian regime resorts to the game of exchanging roles with its agents. While Khaddam approves and signs the agreement, someone like Khalid al-'Amlah or Ahmad Jibril states that the agreement does not mean the withdrawal from the refugee camps or the departure of Abu 'Ammar from Tripoli, or that Abu 'Ammar will be forced to leave. Everyone knows that those midgets cannot make even one statement without their master Khaddam permitting them to do so. Their statements, which are not freely made, are the exact orders of the master himself, which are meant to focus on vague expressions in the agreement. There is no doubt that the Syrian side insisted that the agreement contain such an ambiguity.

This is a blatant and stupid game. its results, in all cases, will be painful and destructive. We in the Palestinian revolution, in spite of all the evidence that we are fit to fight and that we are the ones who are capable of carrying it out, announce that we loathe this fighting imposed on us. We say this not out of fear of anyone, but out of concern over the blood of the sons of Palestine, out of loyalty to our martyrs, and out of commitment to our militant people's objectives.

From this premise, we call on the Damascus regime to stop its stupid and destructive game. We also call on the brothers and the friends to pursue their efforts to end this massacre. We announce too, that we shall do our best to end the fighting, but on the condition that we do not become the victim at the end of the fighting.

Committee Statement Analyzed

JN280951 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] O brothers, it is not new that our revolution is currently subjected to a conspiracy that aims at liquidating or containing it. We are not interpreting or discovering anything new when we find this or that party seeking to cancel, expropriate, or contain the independent Palestinian decisionmaking. We do not exaggerate when we say that our revolution has been accustomed to these successive attempts and is similarly accustomed to foiling and turning them back against those who plot and implement therm. Thus, there is nothing new in the Syrian regime's conspiracy, either in its formulation and objective or means of implementation.

This fact places our revolution and its legitimate leadership before its historic responsibilities in defending the Palestinian land, people, revolution, and cause. This is what our revolution is currently doing in northern Lebanon, particularly in Tripoli and the Al-Baddawi camp. Certainly, it was not our choice or decision to fight against the forces of the Syrian regime and its agents because our revolution's objectives are very clear and specific, whether on the level of the slogan — all rifles must be aimed at the enemy — or on the level of reality where our revolution is continuing its fight against the Zionist enemy inside and outside the occupied territory.

These axiomatic facts must be noted while we discuss the four-member committee statement which was issued yesterday. Our stand and that of our people and masses affirms that every Palestinian — we repeat, every Palestinian, whether in the position of direct responsibility or in the position of affiliation with Palestine — cannot remain neutral or undecided when it is a question of loyalty to Palestine, the homeland, the revolution, and the cause. He is thus subjected to the conspiracy when his revolution is subjected to it. Therefore, he is responsible for defending the revolution and its legitimate leadership, and at least for defending himself.

However, discussion of this statement is inevitable. The first point of the agreement stressed the need for a cease-fire. We consider this point a stand, not a demand,because our revolution supports the cease-fire since initially it did not open fire and also did not seek to do so. Our revolution's stand is not only in favor of a cease-fire but also is against opening fire, except at the Zionist enemy. Certainly, our revolution considers this an axiomatic fact, both in principle and in practice. Therefore, the statement should have stressed this objective which, on some occasions,we have demanded and on others have wished for, in the hope that the Syrian regime would respond to it. We had hoped that the Syrian regime would clearly specify this point. We also hoped that it would not fall into generalizations by using terms such as "fighting sides" at a time when there are only two sides: our Palestinian revolution that is defending itself and the aggressor Syrian regime. We are sure that those who signed the statement are also on one side with regard to their affiliation with the revolution. They comprise some who are represented in the PLO and who are consequently subjected to this onslaught.

When the brother leader of the revolution defends the revolution with his comrade fighters against the Syrian regime's onslaught, he thus defends not only some people but everyone. Because of this awareness of what is taking place, every Palestinian must take up his position in defense of the revolution against the conspiracy which is trying to turn the strugglers into mediators. This is what we reject and are fighting for.

Furthermore, we have never been against democratic dialogue. We called for this dialogue even after Brother Abu 'Ammar's departure from Damascus at the official request of the Syrian authorities. We are calling for this dialogue now out of our historic responsibility and concern for saving blood.

Regarding the second point of the statement, we say: We are the builders of civilization, we are the heroes who are protecting the Arab cities from all evils, and our presence in the city of Tripoli is no more than temporary in a place that will lead us to our land, where we will set up our independent state. We are not besieging Tripoli or threatening to destroy or wipe it out. We hoped the statement would stress the need to lift the siege from Tripoli, because this is the only means to rescue it so that we can step up our battle and struggle against the Zionist enemy on the contact lines and deep inside the occupied land. We would have never been in Tripoli if the Syrian regime had not forced us to withdraw from Al-Biqa'.

The statement is correct in stressing the need for the presence of the revolution's forces in our people's camps. But who was it that yesterday fought against our presence in these camps other than the Zionist enemy? Today, the Syrian regime ocupies the Nahr al-Barid camp and tried to occupy the Al-Baddawi camp. Is this the electronic war that the Damascus rulers boast about, and are these the missiles which the regime's defense minister claimed would hit the farthest stone in the Negev? All they did was strike at our revolution and masses in the camps. This is as clear as a sword's edge.

The Syrian regime's role does not need any dialogue or interpretation, and what is happening cannot tolerate any shuffling of cards or resorting to generalizations. How can we fight the Zionist enemy alongside Syria while the Syrian regime's forces are destroying our kinfolk's houses and trying to make our revolution and its legitimate leadership their target? Yes, how can it be so? We add that massing troops to fight the Zionist enemy is one of our primary objectives. We did not describe the determination to fight the israeli enemy as "getting involved," as the Syrian regime does. We did not demand the destruction of the Syrian forces in the same way that the Syrian regime is trying to destroy our revolution or at least weaken it.

These clear facts make us stress the third point of the four-member committee statement that calls for the need to continue the struggle to preserve our free and independent national decisionmaking. Here, we say that our revolution's forces, under brother Abu 'Ammar, are fighting to preserve such decisionmaking. Have we said we do not want independent decisionmaking? Is the Syrian regime fighting us for this independent decisionmaking or to dominate it? This is a question to which everyone knows the answer. Everyone also knows that there is no disagreement in the Palestinian revolution over this question.

What is happening now constitutes the Syrian regime's objective of creating differences and conflicts. There have aways been healthy differences of opinion in the Palestinian revolution which have led to better situations. It is unjust to refer to this issue amid our confrontation of the liquidatory conspiracy being implemented by the Syrian rulers. Yes, matters should be understood and frankly and clearly dealt with, with the same frankness which the Syrian regime is practicing in words and in deeds. [Words indistinct]

This is but a little of what should be said. At the least, we should fight to undermine the conspiracy in defense of Palestine — land, people, revolution, and the cause.

'Arafat Thanks Algeria's Bendjedid for Support

LD272241 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and general commander of the Palestinian revolution forces, contacted the Algerian president, militant Brother Chadli Bendjedid, by telephone yesterday. During their conversation, brother leader Abu 'Ammar extended to the Algerian president the greetings and appreciation of the Palestinian leadership and fighters of the Palestinian revolution, as well as their thanks, for the firm and principled attitude of the Algerian Government, people, president, and party in supporting the Palestinian cause and defending the independence of Palestinian decisionmaking.

'Arafat, YAR President Hold Phone Conversation

GF281658 Sana'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] A telephone conversation was held last night between Brother Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Commitee chairman, and Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the YAR. During the conversation, Brother Abu 'Ammar acquainted the brother president with the latest developments of the situation in

northern Lebanon, particularly in the city of Tripoli, and the PLO's view of the recent Arab accord and the cease-fire in the north.

Brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih affirmed to Brother Abu 'Ammar, in the name of the Yemeni government and people, the YAR's principled and firm stand in support for the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people, led by Brother Abu 'Ammar, under the PLO, the sole representative of the Palestinian people and revolution.

Brother Abu 'Ammar conveyed to the brother president the gratitude of the Palestinian revolution, represented by the PLO, for the noble stand the Yemeni people have adopted in support for the Palestinian revolution in all the difficult situations it has faced and is facing.

'Arafat Envoy Meets Benin, Togo Presidents

LD272302 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Brother Salman al-'Irfi, envoy of the brother leader Abu 'Amman, continues his tour of several friendly African states. He arrived this evening in the capital of Congo, Brazaville, to deliver a message from Brother Abu 'Ammar to the Congolese president concerning the latest developments of the Palestinian cause and the aggression to which the Palestinian revolution is being subjected in northern Lebanon.

Brother al-'Irfi met yesterday the presidents of Benin and Togo and delivered a message to each of them from Brother Abu 'Ammar concerning the latest Palestinian developments and the conspiracies to which the Palestinian revolution is being subjected. The two presidents confirmed their absolute and firm support for the PLO and their unreserved condemnation of the plots to which the Palestinian revolution is being subjected at the hands of Syria. They declared their full support for the struggle of the Palestinian people.

Jordan PLA Issues Statement on Mediation

JN260929 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 26 Nov 83 p 30

[Text] Amman — *AR-RA'Y* — The Palestine Liberation Army [PLA] command in Jordan issued a statement commenting on the statement the Palestinian reconciliation committee issued on 22 November 1983.

The PLA statement says: We wonder whether the reconciliation committee has seven members, as was mentioned, or if this committee was amended by adding names that were not included when the committee was first formed.

The PLO statement adds: We encourage anyone to speak the truth in order to stop the bloodshed, but we categorically reject having the truth spoken after it is too late.

The statement asks: Where has the reconciliation committee been, and why has it been silent all this time? Why did the committee not announce such ideas when our children were seeking protection in the streets of the refugee camps while the camps were being shelled? Why was this statement not issued 20 days ago? Why did the reconciliation committee delegation not go to northern Lebanon and place themselves between the warring parties, as was suggested?

The statement shows that the fighting is raging between the parties of the movement. The truth is that the Syrian and Libyan Armies carried out the attack with their agents — Tariq al-Khadra, Ahmad Jibril, and Salah al-Ma'ani. Ahmad Jibril is still making threats. Tariq al-Khadra is still leading his forces under the Syrian command in the north. Our people still remember Tariq al-Khadra's stand and his statement in which he announced the downfall of brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat's legitimacy as the PLO chairman. He then moved with his forces, in accordance with the Syrian command's orders, to storm the refugee camps.

The statement asks: Where were they when the leader of this homeland, His Majesty King Husayn, delivered his speech at the Command and Staff College's officers graduation, appealing to Arab leaders to stop the bloodshed in northern Lebanon? Where were they when Mrs Indira Gandhi called for the salvation of the Palestinian people from the Palestinian people's so-called revolutionaries — Ahmad Jibril, Tariq al-Khadra, Salah al-Ma'ani, Al-'Amlah, Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], Abu Kuwayk, Abu Akram, and Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha]?

The PLA statement says: The Saudi and Syrian foreign ministers discussed the cease-fire agreement with President al-Asad's consent, and without Abu Musa and his comrades. In other words, Syria alone has the final say.

The statement says: We appreciate all those who supported our people in northern Lebanon. We highly praise and appreciate the stand of His Majesty King Husayn, who appealed to Arab leaders to stop the killing and destruction of our Palestinian people. We in the Palestinian forces support the truth and our Palestinian people. We appreciate all those who support our people and our rights.

The statement praises our steadfast kinfolk in the occupied territories for speaking the true and sincere word, and for supporting Abu 'Ammar, the revolution's leader, and his forces in northern Lebanon who are challenging vanity and conspiracy just as we used to know him and his wise leadership to do.

Algerian Arms Shipments to 'Arafat Reported

NC271238 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that Algerian ships have unloaded arms for 'Arafat in the [Tripoli] port. The ships also transported a number of Palestinians who had arrived earlier in Algeria as part of the POW exchange between Fatah and Israel.

PFLP-General Command on Israeli Prisoners Exchange
JN281438 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] In Damascus, PFLP-GC spokesman Fadl Shururu has stated that he expects negotiations to exchange the Israeli prisoners which are detained by his front for Palestinian fighters in Israel to be resumed soon. Shururu added that the negotiations will take place with an International Red Cross delegation.

Trial of POW's Denied
NC281620 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] A spokesman of the PFLP-GC, which is led by Ahmad Jibril, has denied yesterday's statement made by a spokesman of the front that two IDF soldiers held captive by Jibril will be tried before a military court and sentenced to death. The spokesman said the report is untrue.

Muragha Says Fighters To Remain in Camps
NC281617 Turbul Lebanon Voice of Palestinian Revolution in Arabic 1445 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Brother Sa'id Musa [Muragha], Alias Abu Musa, has dealt with the latest developments in the Palestinian arena in the wake of the Damascus agreement. He said the uprising's approval of the agreement did not include the demand for the Palestinian fighters' departure from Lebanese territory, and affirmed that no fighter should leave Lebanon. However, 'Arafat has again decided to send the Palestinian fighters to exile in Arab countries.

Colonel Abu Musa addressed an appeal to the fighters in the north who are still under 'Arafat's command to return to their real positions on the frontline against the Zionist enemy who usurped Palestinian territory and who occupied southern Lebanon. He said the fighters will stay in the camps to protect the camps from any Zionist attack. Such an attack is always anticipated against the Palestinian Arab people wherever they may be.

Col Abu Musa denied 'Arafat's allegations that Arab forces have been brought to the north. He said this matter is completely untrue; it never took place, and we will never agree to such a thing.

Regarding the question of guarantees, he said: Our people need no guarantees from their revolution, which originally began for their sake and for their protection. He expressed the belief that 'Arafat will not abide by the agreement. 'Arafat brings more weapons and mercenaries in daily to draw the area into a battle in which he will drown Tripoli in a large massacre so that he may later join the Camp David.

Col Abu Musa affirmed that Israel and imperialism have attempted to give 'Arafat support in order to help him achieve his goals in service of the U.S. plan when Israel freed some detainees from Israeli prisons in Lebanon. He explained that under a previous agreement 1,250 Palestinian strugglers were to have been freed from Israeli prisons in return for 8 Zionist POW's; however, the 100 [as heard] freed under the new agreement included 63 detainees or POW's while the remaining 37 were not POW's but were abducted by Zionist pirates.

Col Abu Musa said the real figure of those freed is 63 in return for 6 Zionists. It was possible to free no less than 800 POW's from within the occupied territory.

Charges Cease-Fire Violations
LD291103 Tripoli JANA in English 0952 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, Safar 24, Nov 29, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Abu Musa, one of the leaders of the revolutionary movement in Fatah, accused 'Arafat of not respecting the recent ceasefire agreement by bringing weapons and Egyptian mercenaries to improve his military position, (?thus) laying out the ground for a big massacre in Tripoli. In a speech distributed yesterday by WAFA, Abu Musa pointed out that Zionist enemy and imperialists are giving assistance to 'Arafat to carry out his part in a U.S. plot.

As-Sa'iqah Forces To Protect Palestinian Camps
NC281706 Turbul Lebanon Voice of Palestinian Revolution in Arabic 1445 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Brother Salah ad-Din Ma'ani, As-Sa'iqah forces commander in chief, in an interview in Al-Baddawi camp, affirmed that the As-Sa'iqah forces together with all the revolution groups are concerned with protecting the security and safety of our masses in Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps. He said our forces will play their revolutionary role of protecting the security of our masses and ensuring their safety.

GULF AFFAIRS

Official Denies Intervention Accord With U.S.

GF281345 Doha QNA in Arabic 1240 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait, 28 Nov (QNA) — A senior Gulf official has denied any agreement between the GCC countries and the United States on U.S. military intervention in the Gulf if Iran closes the Strait of Hormuz. The denial comes as a reply to U.S. Secretary of Energy Donald Hodel's statement that the Gulf countries are in concurrence with the United States in this respect.

In a statement published in today's issue of the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-ANBA'*, the Gulf official said if Iran closes the Strait of Hormuz, the Gulf countries will immediately call on the Security Council to hold a meeting to adopt a resolution to open the strait, since the issue concerns all the countries of the world and not only the Gulf countries. He noted that Security Council Resolution No 540 considers the Gulf a region free of military operations.

The official added that if the Security Council does not succeed in adopting a resolution in such a case, the Gulf countries will resort to other measures to protect navigation in the Gulf waters and this is their right which has been safeguarded by international law.

Qatari Interior Minister Opens GCC Conference

LD281347 Kuwait KUNA in English 1131 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Riyadh, Nov 28 (KUNA) — The third conference of Gulf Cooperation Council member states' interior ministers opened here Monday to discuss coordination between the six partners on matters of internal security. Opening the meeting, Qatari Interior Minister Shaykh Khalid Hamad al-Thani stressed the necessity of continuing along the path of mutual consultation and liaison which has characterized gulf states' policies in the field since the council's inception. He said that reports from the various preparatory and technical committees charged with studying problems and developments in security cooperation had shown that the shared aim and principles of the six could be well served by further liaison and joint action.

But, he said, efforts had to be made to put into effect the recommendations and decisions made when the ministers met in Bahrain in August 1982, which, he said, called for the development of each country's security capabilities as a step towards ensuring effective regional coordination in the field, as envisaged by the latest GCC summit in Qatar. He called on ministers to adopt proposals for joint security measures and legislation which had been revised by council subcommittees in the light of observations made on the original plans by member states and the general secretariat. Shaykh Khalid also called on the specialized committees, set up by the Bahrain conference to study problems of joint security cooperation, to remain in session, and be transformed into follow-up committees to oversee the implementation of decisions reached.

The Qatari minister praised the achievements already under taken by the council in the field of security, which he described as "important, growing and comprehensive."

Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayyif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz later spoke stressing the Saudi monarch and people's hopes for the success of the meeting. "We are only doing our duty," he said, reiterating the hope that the conference would achieve positive results and welcoming the ministers, who arrived from their various countries earlier in the day, to the Kingdom.

Among the tasks before the confernece is a study of the proposals presented by subcommittees dealing with passports, immigration and labour, road transport and nationality.

GULF AFFAIRS

Saudi, Kuwaiti Air Forces Continue Exercises

LD271226 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1155 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Riyadh, 27 Nov (SPA) — The Royal Saudi Air force and the Air Force of the sister state of Kuwait are continuing their joint air exercise as part of the joint military exercises of the armed forces of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries. A squadron of Kuwaiti Air Force AS-4 Skyhawk fighters and two squadrons — one of F-15's and another of F-5's — from the Royal Saudi Air Force are taking part in the exercise, which is to continue for 11 days.

BAHRAIN

Amir Receives Arab League's Chedli Klibi

GF281805 Manama WAKH in English 1635 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Manama, 28 Nov (WAKH) — His Highness the Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah received this evening the Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi now visiting Bahrain. The meeting covered the current developments on the Arab arena, mainly the convening of the Arab summit in Riyadh.

Mr Klibi briefed his highness the amir on the outcome of his consultations with the leaders of Arab countries he visited to prepare for the scheduled summit. They also exchanged views on Arab issues in general and the Palestinian one in particular.

His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah affirmed his support for all efforts exerted by Mr Klibi to restore Arab solidarity. The meeting was attended by Bahraini Foreign Affairs Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah; and Shaykh 'Isa's sons Shaykh Rashid ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah and Muhammad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah.

Mr Klibi arrived in Bahrain earlier today from Kuwait on a brief visit to Bahrain as part of his tour of Arab countries. He was met by Bahrain Foreign Affairs Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah. He expressed his hope that Bahrain would spare no efforts to boost joint Arab work.

Klibi Departs for Doha

GF281806 Manama WAKH in English 1640 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Manama, 28 Nov (WAKH) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi left Manama this evening for Doha after a short visit to Bahrain.

KUWAIT

Hungarian Foreign Minister Begins Visit

LD281821 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1602 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait, 28 Nov (KUNA) — The foreign minister of Hungary, Dr Peter Varkonyi, said he will hold talks with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, prime minister and foreign and information minister, on bilateral issues and international issues of mutual interest. In a statement to journalists on his arrival here this evening on a 3-day official visit, he said that the visit is in response to the kind visit by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad. He said he will be continuing the existing friendly dialogue between the Hungarian Republic and the State of Kuwait. He added that the talks will center on developing bilateral cooperation and will also deal with international issues of mutual interest, including the situation in the Middle East and the Palestinian question.

In reply to a question by KUNA about Hungary's stance vis-a-vis the deployment of American nuclear missiles in Western Europe and the withdrawal of the Soviet Union from the strategic arms limitation talks [as received], Dr Varkonyi stressed that his country did not and will not allow a military imbalance between the two camps. He said that his country considers what happened recently is regrettable "and it means that a new phase of the arms race will start between the two camps instead of the opposite with the two trying to reduce tension and the arms race." He stressed that Hungary "totally approves" the Soviet Government statement on this issue. He pointed out that his government put forward many proposals with regard to this matter, but did not find the required response.

He said that Hungary, in its capacity as member of the Warsaw Pact, participated in drafting and coordinating all the proposals aimed at reducing tension in Europe, a very important part of the world [words indistinct] and that his country's stance is based on total convication that it is possible to maintain a power balance between the Warsaw and the NATO alliances at a much lower level without deploying weapons.

Dr Varkonyi arrived from Tehran on the second leg of his tour in the region, which will also include Damascus and Amman. Tomorrow Dr Varkonyi is expected to be received by the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir as-Sabah, and to hold talks with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, who will give a banquet in honor of Dr Varkonyi and the accompanying delegation.

On Wednesday morning he will meet the crown prince and prime minister, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah. He will then continue his tour to Damascus.

Cypriot Minister Delivers Kiprianou Message

LD281638 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1044 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait, 28 Nov (KUNA) — Yeoryios Andreou, Cypriot minister of commerce and industry, left Kuwait for Jordan today after delivering a letter from President Spiros Kiprianou to Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah. The Cypriot minister's 1-day visit was part of a tour of a number of Middle East countries.

Klibi Quoted on Results of Consultations

LD281412 Kuwait KUNA in English 1110 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 28 (KUNA) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi said Monday his visit to Kuwait is to brief His Highness The Amir on initial results of consultations carried out by the Arab League Secretariat with the coordination of Saudi Arabia toward preparing for the forthcoming Arab summit in Riyadh. Klibi who arrived here today told KUNA he has also come to hear the views of his highness on current issues, particularly the efforts being exerted by Kuwait and the active role it is exerting toward building up an Arab consensus and clearing Arab atmosphere. Klibi hailed the efforts of Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad within the framework of Arab League and the Gulf Cooperation Council. Klibi expressed hope that the efforts would be fruitful particularly regarding the Iraq-Iran war.

OMAN

Foreign Minister Leaves for Romania, Britain

GF271116 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0905 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Muscat, 27 Nov (WAKH) — Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf Al-'Alawi 'Abdallah and the accompanying delegation left Muscat for an official visit to Romania this morning. Later he will will leave for London to attend the meetings of the joint Omani-British committee for economic and technical cooperation.

Prior to his departure, Mr 'Abdallah said that he will deliver a message from Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman to Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu and will hold talks with Romanian officials on strengthening bilateral relations. He referred to his visit to Britain and said that he will attend the second meeting of the Omani-British committee and discuss bilateral relations and exchange views on the situation in the Gulf and the Middle East and the possibility of increasing Britain's technological and technical aid to Oman.

Romanian Reportage

For Romanian reportage on Foreign Minister al-Alawi's visit to Bucharest, see the Romania section of the 28 November Eastern Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Oil Minister on Production, Exports to Japan

GF271248 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0900 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Muscat, 27 Nov (WAKH) — Sa'id Ahmad ash-Shanfari, Omani minister of petroleum and minerals, said in a statement published in today's issue of the Omani newspaper *'UMAN* that the Sultanate of Oman has decided to increase its oil exports to Japan to 60 percent of its overall exports by the end of 1983. He indicated that this decision was made after the successful talks he held with Japanese officials during his recent visit to Japan.

In reply to a question on Oman's current oil situation, he said: Oman's oil situation is encouraging. Thanks to the oil explorations during the past years, we have been able to maintain oil reserve rates, which will make the oil last longer. He speculated that the demand for Omani oil will improve during 1984, thus enabling Oman to maintain its current production rate of 390,000 barrels per day.

The Omani minister said oil cooperation between Oman and Japan develops continuously, noting that there are three Japanese companies in Oman involved in oil exploration.

PDRY

YSP, BCP Officials Meet in Aden 26 Nov

GF261614 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Text] Brother Abu Bakr (Ba Zayd), member of the Political Bureau of the YSP Central Committee and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, received at this office this morning the delegation of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] headed by Comrade Georgi Petrov, member of the BCP Central Committee, member of the National Assembly, and deputy chief of the People's Councils and Mass Organizations Department of the BCP. During the meeting they discussed the scope of cooperation between the YSP and the BCP in various fields, especially party and popular work at the level of state organizations. The two sides exchanged information on party and popular work in order to strengthen cooperation between the two parties in this field. The meeting was attended by Brother Rajih Salih Naji, alternate member of the YSP Central Committee and deputy secretary of the YSP Central Committee, and Comrade Kamburov, Bulgarian ambassador in Aden.

Review Labor Cooperation

GF271333 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Brother Sultan ad-Dush, member of the YSP Central Committee and secretary general of the republic's General Labor Union, has met with the BCP delegation led by Comrade Petrov, member of the BCP Central Committee and deputy chief of the BCP People's Councils and Mass Organizations Department. During the audience, they discussed aspects of cooperation between the republic's general labor union and the central council of the Bulgarian unions and cooperation between the YSP and the BCP in activities among the masses, particularly labor unions. The meeting was attended by Brother Faysal Muhammad 'Abdallah, secretary of foreign relations at the labor union; Brother Sa'id (Rawah), secretary of the organization department; and Comrade Kamburov, Bulgarian ambassador in Aden.

Foreign Minister Receives Soviet Official

GF271525 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs, discussed relations of cooperation and friendship between the friendly PDRY and Soviet Union during his meeting this morning with Comrade Alexandr Sakharov, Soviet first deputy justice minister and chairman of the Soviet-Yemeni Friendship Association. During the meeting, Dr ad-Dali and Comrade Sakharov praised the successes that have been achieved within the framework of enhancing and deepening comradeship ties between the two friendly peoples. They also exchanged views on world developments.

Chairman Sends Support Cable to 'Arafat

GF281644 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Cable from 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, on the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people]

[Text] On the occasion of the international day of solidarity with the Arab Palestinian people, it pleases me to convey to you in the name of the YSP Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and the Council of Ministers the warmest greetings of comradeship. We affirm to you the firm stand of our party, people, and government in support of the just struggle the Arab Palestinian people are waging to regain their legitimate rights, foremost being their right to return to their homeland, their right to self-determination, and their right to set up their independent state under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

Over the past years, the PLO has achieved important gains and its international position has gained more importance thanks to the blood of thousands of martyrs and the heavy sacrifices that have been made by the Palestinian people during the various stages of their national struggle for freedom and against imperialism and Zionism. It has become incumbent for all honorable strugglers of the sons of the Palestinian people to protect and develop these gains. This necessitates enhancing the struggle to maintain Palestinian national unity within the PLO, preserve Palestinian blood, hold firm to legitimate institutions, avoid allowing minor differences take precedence over the main conflict with the enemy, mobilize all material and human resources, and unify all struggling Palestinian guns and direct them against

the imperialist-Zionist enemy who is lurking in the shadows of the Palestinian cause and continuing to escalate his aggressive expansionist policy and hectic conspiratorial designs against the Palestinian people and the Palestinian revolution.

While sharing with you your celebrations on this occasion, we in the PDRY affirm our total readiness to continue to enhance the ties of the common struggle of our fraternal Yemeni and Palestinian peoples against imperialism and Zionism out of the unity of common goals and principles of the Yemeni and the Palestinian revolutions in the national struggle for the freedom of our Arab peoples.

QATAR

Sales of Oil at Lower Prices Denied

GF260800 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0745 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Text] Doha, 26 Nov (WAKH) — Sources at the Qatari General Petroleum Corporation [GEPCO] have denied a report published by the British newspaper *THE FINANCIAL TIMES* which said that Qatar is now selling its oil at prices less than those set by OPEC. In a statement in today's issue of the Qatari newspaper *GULF TIMES*, a senior GEPCO official said this report is baseless. "We have never been and we never will be a party in operations aimed at a collapse of OPEC prices. We defend the organization's prices even if this is at the expense of our national interests," the source said.

The report published by *THE FINANCIAL TIMES* on 6 November claimed that Qatar reduced its price of oil without announcement in order to boost sales.

SAUDI ARABIA

Arab League's Klibi Visits Kingdom 27-28 Nov

Meets Foreign Minister

LD271124 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1002 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Riyadh, 27 Nov (SPA) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi arrived in Riyadh at noon today on a visit to the kingdom as part of his current tour of Arab countries. His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, met with Chedli Klibi this afternoon. During the meeting, they received the results of the secretary general's visit to a number of Arab countries.

Received by King

LD271212 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1140 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Riyadh, 27 Nov (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League, — who arrived in Riyadh earlier today — in his office at the Royal Court today. His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and commander of the National Guard, and His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, attended the meeting.

Finance Minister Returns From Algiers Talks

LD281401 Riyadh SPA in English 1200 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Riyadh, Nov 28, SPA — Finance and National Economy Minister Muhammad Aba al-Khayl returned home last night from Algiers at the end of a two-day visit to Algeria during which he conveyed a message from HM King Fahd to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. On his arrival, ABA al-Khayl told SPA that he had signed a loan accord for Algeria to finance the construction of a new port. The Saudi Development Bank, the Arab Fund for Economic Development, the International Bank as well as the Algerian Government are taking part in financing the new port, Aba al-Khayl said. He added that his talks with Algerian leaders covered ways of strengthening cooperation as well as economic and financial issues of mutual concern.

Aba al-Khayl said the GCC finance ministers would hold their first meeting for the Gulf Investment Corporation's board of directors on Wednesday. The participants will elect the corporations' director general and work out the future plan of the newly established institution grouping the GCC six member states, he said. Most of the corporation's member states have paid their quotas in the corporation's capital, he added. The formation of the Kuwait-based corporation has been endorsed by the fourth GCC summit held recently in Doha, Qatar. The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the UAE and Oman.

UAE

Foreign Ministry Statement on PLO Solidarity

GF280550 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1910 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 28 Nov (WAKH) — The UAE has affirmed its solidarity, of president, government, and people, with the Palestinian people's struggle under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, to regain their usurped rights and confirm their right for honorable and free life on their holy land, regain their right for self-determination, and to set up their independent state on their national soil in Palestine. In the statement which the UAE Foreign Ministry issued today on the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people, the UAE saluted the heroic struggle the Palestinian people and revolution are waging and the flaming revolution in the occupied Arab and Palestinian lands.

The following is the text of the Foreign Ministry statement:

On the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people, the UAE Foreign Ministry, in the name of its president, government, and people, seizes this occasion to reiterate its solidarity with the Palestinian people struggling for their freedom, dignity, and independence. It also salutes on this great occasion the heroic struggle the Palestinian people are waging and the flaming revolution in the occupied Arab and Palestinian lands.

We reiterate our solidarity with the Palestinian people under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, in their valiant struggle to regain their usurped rights, confirm their right for an honorable life in their holy land, and regain their right for self-determination, and to set up their independent state on their national soil in Palestine.

This historic occasion, the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people, is a reflection of the awareness of the world's peoples, represented by the United Nations, for their responsibility toward these people since the Zionist occupation of their land in 1947. It is also an indication of the world community's insistence on ending the injustice the Palestinian people have suffered and on supporting them in their legitimate struggle to regain their usurped rights.

The UAE expresses its extreme regret and deep sorrow for the hard circumstances which the Palestinian revolution is experiencing, especially since the revolution has always been the source of pride to every Arab and all the peace-loving countries of the world. The unity of the Palestinian ranks is the rock upon which the ambitions of the Israeli enemy, who is not ignorant of what is taking place in the ranks of the Palestinian revolution, were destroyed. Thus, the UAE urges the elimination of the differences between comrades in arms to save the Palestinian issue from the tremendous dangers to which it is being subjected as a result of the continuation of these differences, which benefit only our joint enemy, Israel. Thus, we call on all the warring sides to abandon the method of trying to solve the differences by fighting and to rise to the level of responsibility and rally everyone around the PLO so that the Palestinian revolution can remain the source of hope, since the continuation of this fighting will affect the fateful issue and threaten the revolution's very survival.

It also calls on Palestinian leaders to try to settle their problems and differences through open dialogue and democratic methods to push the Palestinian cause to the correct way which will achieve the revolution's objectives of regaining all the usurped Palestinian people's rights and establish the independent Palestinian state in Palestine.

YAR

Cuba's Malmierca Arrives in San'a' 28 Nov

GF282010 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Isidoro Malmierca, Cuban minister of foreign relations, arrived in San'a' today on a visit to the republic in response to an invitation from the Foreign Ministry. In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY, the Cuban minister said his visit to our country is to exchange views on some issues and to assess the latest international developments [words indistinct]. He said his talks with Foreign Ministry officials will focus on developing relations between the two countries, which belong to the developing world and are active members in the Nonaligned Movement. Concluding his statement, he expressed the hope that his visit to our country will expand relations between the two countries.

He was received by the borhter foreign affairs minister and secretary general of the Standing Committee.

Official Talks Begin

GF290506 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Official talks between the YAR and the Republic of Cuba began at the Foreign Affairs Ministry today. The YAR side was led by Ahmad al-Asbahi, foreign affairs minister and secretary of the Standing Committee, while the Cuban side was led Isidoro Malmierca, foreign relations minister. During this session, which was attended by a number of officials from the two sides, bilateral relations, means of improving these relations, and a number of current international issues of common interest were discussed.

Arab League's Klibi Meets 'Ali, Departs

GF261608 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Brother Chedli Klibi left Aden this morning after a short visit to our country during which he met with Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to discuss developments in the Palestinian arena in particular and in the Arab arena in general. During this meeting, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad reiterated our country's concern over the developments in the Palestinian arena and over the increasing aggressive threats by the forces of the Zionist-imperialist alliance against our Arab peoples, in addition to the regretful bloody events in northern Lebanon, and called for an urgent joint Arab move to stop the bloodshed and painful fighting among the brothers in the Palestinian revolution and to maintain Palestinian national unity and the unity of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He was seen off at Aden International Airport by Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs.

President Sends Message to New Cabinet

GF261934 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Text of 26 November message from 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, to the new prime minister and members of Cabinet — read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee:

Thank God, our people have achieved numerous accomplishments and gains. The adoption of the national charter by our people represents one of the most important achievements and gains. By means of the charter, the features of the future have

been determined and national unity has been strengthened. This leaves the new government confronted with the responsibilities of this stage.

Regarding our foreign policy, the government should continue to maintain relations with all countries on basis of mutual respect and common interests as was affirmed by the charter. Our national unity should be a basis for achieving the unity of the two parts of Yemen and for a comprehensive unity of our Arab nation. We should also continue to attach importance to all the hopes and ambitions of our Arab nation and to its just causes, especially the Palestinian cause. We should have special relations with the countries of the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf.

Work for bolstering Arab solidarity and the Arab League should continue. We should also continue to strengthen our relations with our brothers and friends and should effectively take part in international forums and coordinate efforts with friendly and fraternal countries to achieve comprehensive cooperation that leads to positive principles and resolutions.

AL-AKHBAR: Al-Qadhdhafi Wounded in Camp Clashes

PM281552 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 27 Nov 83 p 1

[Correspondent report: "Massacre in a Libyan Camp; Al-Qadhdhafi Seriously Wounded"]

[Text] Rome — According to Libyans arriving in Rome yesterday morning, the Bab al-'Aziziyah camp has been the scene of violent military clashes and bloodshed. The chief of staff's office and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's headquarters are situated inside that camp. According to the same reports, Al-Qadhdhafi was seriously wounded last Thursday and doctors were flown in from Switzerland for him aboard a special plane.

Mubarak Sends Message on African Journalists Day

NC281408 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today addressed a message to the African people on the occasion of the celebration of the African Journalists Day held at the conference hall in the Arab League building [in Cairo]. The message was read by Minister of State for Information Safwat ash-Sharif. In his message, the president said that our celebration of African Journalists Day expresses our faith in the role played by the press in our great continent and our realization of the importance of the written word in developing life and contributing to progress on the land of Africa, whose people are striving to achieve prosperity in accordance with the spirit of the age.

The president added that the critical role played by African journalists is closely linked to the causes of national independence and economic development. The executive authorities in any community are in constant need to feel the people's aspirations so as to draw up plans in light of what is feasible. These authorities also constantly need to measure the objectives that these plans achieve so that these objectives become tangible facts. The president said that African journalists must double their efforts to pinpoint the gap between their communities and other prosperous communities until the African Continent reaches a standard in which [the quality of] human life becomes balanced on this earth and the people are able afterward to contribute toward the establishment of peace. Concluding his message, the president said that the freedom demanded by the journalists is a necessity for journalistic work, but it must be characterized by responsibility. We in Egypt understand this freedom and aspire to provide and support it and prepare asuitable atmosphere to let it grow.

Labor Unions Federation Supports Palestinians

NC271505 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1355 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Cairo, 27 Nov (MENA) — Egyptian workers have reaffirmed their full support for the Palestinian people's struggle to establish their legitimate right for a free and dignified life on their national soil. The workers condemned the conspiracy to liquidate the Palestinian resistance and end the Palestinian presence. The Syrian and Libyan regimes have been accurately and thoroughly implementing this conspiracy since the Tall az-Za'tar tragedy [Syrian forces' attack on Tall az-Za'tar Palestinian camp near Beirut] and until today. The Egyptian workers demanded the Arab leaders and Arab homeland workers take more effective and serious steps to stop the present bloodshed in Lebanon. This came in a statement which the Conference of the General Assembly of the General Federation of the Labor Unions in Egypt issued today at the beginning of the new labor session which will continue until 1987. The statement was read at a news conference by Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad, minister of state for manpower and training, and chairman of the conference.

AL-AHALI Views U.S.-Israeli Strategic Alliance

PM241511 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 19 Nov 83 p 2

[Muhammad Sayyid Ahmad "Our Foreign Policy" column: "The Jerusalem Visit and the Impossible Gamble"]

[Text] As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem took place 6 years ago. What is interesting is that Egypt, which is no longer receiving any attention in the Western press, enjoyed unprecedented attention in the Western press, and enjoyed unprecedented attention during the visit simply because an Arab head of state had set foot in Israel. This was no coincidence. Through his visit to Israel As-Sadat wanted not only to address the Israeli leaders but also to curry favor with the United States and profess hostility toward the Arabs. First he wanted to challenge the oil-rich Arabs, who according to him had become the "world's sixth power," without this having any effect on preventing uprisings in Egypt as a result of deprivation and hunger.

He wanted to tell these people: I can be more royalist than the king and more aligned with the United States than you are. Thanks to the war I have launched your oil prices have gone up. You now have mutual relations with the United States; you supply it with energy and it provides you with wealth. But you are wrong to think that you alone have the means of addressing it. Although it may be true that you have the oil weapon and the money weapon and I have neither oil or money like you, nevertheless I have the possibility of visiting Israel, which is far more effective in addressing the United States than all the oil and money you have.

This was As-Sadat's wrong gamble. He imagined that he could build an Egyptian-U.S. strategic alliance not only stronger than the relations between the Arab oil countries and the United States,but also Israel's relations with the United States. He imagined that he could serve strategic U.S. interests in the area to the extent that he could compel the United States to side with him against Israel every time a dispute broke out between the two countries, thus enabling the restoration of the occupied Arab territories and Arab rights. This was an impossible dream. As-Sadat's line did not lead to Israel being cut down to size and prevented from pursuing its expansionist line, but rather to Egypt being neutralized and the biggest Arab country being taken out of the Middle East arena.

What As-Sadat could not imagine was that the U.S.-Israeli alliance is a natural alliance while the Egyptian-U.S. alliance is an impossible thing.

Israel, because its existence is based on the usurpation of Arab lands, cannot but be backed by a power from outside the area, whereas Egypt derives its strength from belonging to the area. Every alliance it sets up at the expense of this allegiance is doomed to failure. Reagan announced the freezing of the U.S. strategic alliance with Israel following Israel's invasion of Lebanon so his Arab friends would feel that he was "denouncing" this invasion. He confirmed that this alliance would remain frozen unless Israel withdrew from Lebanon. But it has been proved that abandoning his alliance with Israel is impossible. A few days ago the U.S. Administration officially announced the resumption of the alliance with Israel following the bombing of U.S., French, and Israeli military posts in Beirut and Tyre, regardless of the fact that Israel has not withdrawn from Lebanon.

In fact, according to *NEW YORK TIMES* commentator Flora Lewis, there are indications that the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance is less the means by which the United States protects Israel than the means by which Israel protects U.S. interests in the area. Flora Lewis also stressed that the Arabs would be wrong to imagine that the United States brings pressure to bear on Israel to get it to be more moderate, but rather the opposite is the truth; that is, it is the United States that asks Israel to adopt harder stands.

It is no coincidence that the United States should discontinue aid to Syria at a time it is giving Israel the most aid ever given to a state. There are signs that this is a prelude to a blow which the United States in conjunction with Israel will deal to Syria allegedly because it is responsible for blowing up the U.S. and Israeli military posts in Lebanon and has become the major stumbling block to the U.S.-Israeli scheme in the area. If there is a lesson that the Arabs should learn from As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, it is that betting on the U.S. horse to regain the Arab rights from Israel is an impossibility and that it is time to make a comprehensive review of the Arab strategy in this regard, a review that should not be confined to Egypt alone.

AL-AHRAM Analyzes U.S.-Israeli Relations

NC260945 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Text] Under the title "Reagan and Shamir's Visit," an article in *AL-AHRAM* today says:

Israeli President Hayim Herzog returned from the United States after meeting with President Reagan. According to Herzog, Reagan had assured him that the United States appreciates the importance of the Israeli role and maintains its previous stands guaranteeing Israel's security and supporting it.

The daily points out that Herzog's visit to Washington was unofficial. Herzog went to the United States to deliver Israel's speech to the United Nations. The Israeli president does not hold official talks with heads of states. However, Israel's organized pressure campaign on the U.S. Government has started. This campaign will continue with the departure of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Defense Minister Moshe Arens for the United States tomorrow for official talks with President Reagan. This follows Menahem Begin's retreat from the political stage and the deterioration in the Lebanese situation.

The daily adds: Israel is trying, without any resistance from the United States, to confirm the importance of a strategic alliance between the two countries. Israelis are seeking to increase military aid grants. This is meant to confirm the [U.S.] support of Israeli policy in the area and not to promote Israel's security. Concluding its article, *AL-AHRAM* underscores that the cause of peace is not just an Arab objective. Peace is a means to provide security and stability in the area. If the United States or Israel purport to ignore this objective and bypass it, the peril will not only threaten the security of the Arab countries, but the security of the Middle East as a whole — U.S. interests and Israeli security included.

Armed Forces Command Communique No 1,294

JN281751 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Nov (INA) — Iraqi forward units have pounded two Iranian enemy troop concentrations opposite their positions in the central and northern sectors, inflicting on them losses in life and equipment.

Military communique No 1,294 issued here this evening stated that a small boat was also destroyed and its occupants were killed in the area of operations east of Basra. The communique also mentioned that Iranian artillery today shelled Mandali and its suburbs, damaging several civilian installations. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,294 issued by the Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To safeguard lofty Iraq's security and the sovereignty of its great people, our valiant Armed Forces continue their activities against the forces of the rancorous Khomeyniite enemy. The results yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units sighted an enemy troop concentration opposite their positions in the central sector of the battlefield, pounded them with their weapons, killing three and wounding others.

2. Our forward units shelled an enemy troop concentration opposite their positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, killing and wounding many. In other areas in the same sector, one hardware stockpile was destroyed and quantities of serviceable weapons and military hardware left behind by the enemy in previous battles were captured.

3. One small boat was destroyed and its occupants were killed east of Basra area.

4. The suspect Iranian enemy today shelled Mandali and its suburbs, damaging several civilian installations.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 November 1983

Oil Minister on Iran 'Threat' to Strait of Hormuz

GF251852 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 24 Nov 83 p 7

[Report on interview with Oil Minister Qasim Taqi by *AS-SIYASAH* Correspondent Hikmat Jarrar — date not given]

[Excerpts] Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Taqi has warned Iran against continuing to commit extortion by threatening to close the Strait of Hormuz.

In an exclusive statement to *AS-SIYASAH*, he said that Iraq would not be harmed by the closure if it were to occur, because the strait is practically closed now due to the military operations in the region. He pointed out that Iraq is not using its southern ports at present, and he asserted that Iraq does not benefit from the Gulf waters. He continued by saying that Iran's threat has been duly noted and that such a threat is in violation of international charters, because the waterway is governed by international agreements and no party has the right to threaten to close it to international navigation. He also pointed out that the closure of the strait will harm Iran more than any other country.

On Iraq's request to increase its oil production share, the Iraqi minister indicated that when the production ceiling was decided, Iraq's share was set at 2.2 million barrels [as printed] a day. He added that this share is inadequate when comparing it to the total OPEC production ceiling while keeping in mind Iraq's huge reserves and productive capabilities over the past few years and need for financial resources.

He went on to say that Iraq accepted at that time its production share because its capability to ensure a greater amount was limited then to less than 1 million barrels a day. He indicated that Iraq is currently producing oil in quantities that almost meet the specified production share. He said that Iraq has a plan to expand the oil line that passes through Turkey and that the first stage of this plan will be completed early next month when the pipeline will have the capacity to transport 1 million barrels.

On the planning stages for a oil pipeline which will pass through Saudi Arabia, he said that the project has been approved by King Fahd and that there are continuous contacts between us and the Kingdom to put the final touches on some of the basic issues that deal with the execution of the project. He stated that we will begin soon to prepare construction plans and designs in order to move into the process of actual execution.

On the importance of Syrian territory for shipping Iraqi oil, he first discussed exporting through neighboring countries and then stressed Iraq's need for an outlet to export its oil. He said that Iraq is seeking to ensure areas through which we can export our oil. He added that Iraq had three outlets for exporting oil; the main one being the southern seaports in Iraq, and the other two are the Syrian and the Turkish pipelines.

He added that there are currently two pipelines which are shut off, the first because of the war and the second because of the Syrian measure. He indicated that Iraq has begun to establish numerous outlets for its oil production in order to ensure basic financial revenues necessary for the development process and industrialization, and to confront various dangers.

On the efforts undertaken by some Arab countries to reexport oil through Syria, he said that all such efforts have been futile since the closure of the pipeline prevents making any progress in this regard.

Answering a question on the possibility of reducing oil prices following dissemination of reports that the Soviet Union intends to reduce its oil prices, he pointed out that it is in the interest of the Soviet Union to preserve its international oil prices particularly since it is a big oil-producing country which is also affected by the supply and demand factor. He stressed that such a move is inappropriate at this time.

Saddam Husayn Receives USSR's Ryabov 28 Nov
JN281643 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] President Saddam Husayn this morning received [Yakov Petrovich] Ryabov, CPSU Central Committee member and chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and his accompanying delegation. During the meeting, the two sides discussed the advanced relations which exist between Iraq and the USSR and the situation in the region. The meeting was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; the president's secretary; and the USSR ambassador in Baghdad.

President Receives Cairo AL-AHRAM Chief Editor
JN261550 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1320 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Nov (INA) — President Saddam Husayn today received Ibrahim Nafi', Arab journalist and chief editor of the Egyptian newspaper *AL-AHRAM*. The *AL-AHRAM* chief editor held a press and political dialogue with President Saddam Husayn, in which the president talked about the facts and developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war, the fraternal relations between Iraq and Egypt, and the current attempts to confiscate the Palestinian resistance movement's decisionmaking, in addition to the Arab situation in general. The president's secretary and the director general of the press and information department at the Presidential Office attended the meeting.

President Cables SFRY's Spiljak on National Day
JN290858 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0815 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Nov (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has congratulated Yugoslav President Nika Spiljak on his country's national day.

In a cable sent on the occasion, the president said: I am pleased to send you our congratulations on behalf of Iraq and in my own name on the occasion of your country's national day, wishing you continued good health and happiness and wishing the friendly Yugoslav people and country continued progress and prosperity, hoping that the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two friendly peoples and countries will continue to develop.

Hasan 'Ali Statement on Return From Japan
JN271022 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0745 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Nov (INA) — Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and minister of trade, returned here last night at the end of an official visit to Japan during which he headed the Iraqi side to the meetings of the fourth session of the Iraqi-Japanese joint committee for economic and technical cooperation.

In a statement to INA, the Iraqi minister said that during the visit, he held talks with senior Japanese officials on cooperation between both countries and means of bolstering relations in the economic, scientific, and technological spheres. Hasan 'Ali added that the meetings of the joint committee resulted in the signing of minutes for cooperation in the spheres of industry and construction, in developing trade exchange, and in expanding technical cooperation between both countries.

Baghdad Azeri Attacks Mullahs in Iran
GF281539 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1900 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, the sad war which has been imposed on the heroic people by the rulers in Tehran and Qom, has entered its fourth year and the violent clashes between the two Muslim neighboring countries are continuing. This blood-dripping war has resulted in the deaths of hundreds of thousands of youths from both countries and in the wounding, maiming, and capture of hundreds of thousands of others. It has also dealt heavy blows on the economies of the two countries, preventing, in the meantime, the realization of plans for progress and development in many fields.

Regardless of the billions of dollars worth of material damage, loss of life, military disorders, and confusion caused by the war, the mullahs' administration does not wish to abandon its slogans calling for [word indistinct] of the war and the liberation of Karbala' and Jerusalem.

It is an interesting point to mention that the warmongers who have imposed this war on Iraq — a clash which has cost Iran $200 billion and the destruction of two oil (?tankers) — have not been able to agree to ask each other why they kindled the flame of this war, why they knocked on the door of war, and why they imposed this war on the poor Iranians. As the proverb goes, who are the wise people to retrieve the stone which has been thrown into the well of war by the crazy supporters of Khomeyni? However, people with common sense and wisdom do not exist in Khomeyni's pharaonic court. Those who are in that court are members of the group of nonsensical, illogical, and crazy people.

Khomeyni says: An-Najaf must be mine. Hashemi-Rafsanjani says the road to Jerusalem must cross through An-Najaf. 'Ali Khamene'i, on the other hand, shouts out loud that the road to Jerusalem must be opened through Basra and Baghdad. Charlatan Colonel Shirazi adds that let alone Jerusalem, the road to Baghdad must cross through Sulaymaniyah. And the commander-in-chief of the criminal Revolution Guards Corps, Mohsen Reza'i, says that the road to Karbala' must open through Baghdad.

In the case of Karbala', it would mean the opening of the door to Jerusalem. [sentence indistinct] And, thus they forget about reaching Jerusalem for the time being. And, talking about Baghdad instead, they voice a new slogan.

The latest slogan they have chanted is that the road to Karbala' must cross through Irbil in Iraq. And, they move to convey good news to the poor Iranians in that regard — shamelessly claiming that breaking through the inaccessible borders of Iraq and advancing for a number of kilometers in Iraqi Kurdestan means reaching the city of Karbala'.

Thus, under the orders of Khomeyni himself, they organize marches and turn tens of thousands of unaware and [word indistinct] youths into cannon fodder for the sake of their immature illusions and deceitful moves.

Nevertheless, they are living the final stages of their blood-dripping and dark (?administration). Therefore, instead of trying to find the roads which lead to Karbala', An-Najaf, Basra, Baghdad, Irbil, Amarah, Sulaymaniyah, and other cities, they should decide on the roads which lead to the cemeteries they are going to be buried in. [sentence indistinct]

However, they should know that it will not be their inheritors who will decide on the roads which will lead to their cemeteries. It will be the heroic peoples of Iran who will decide on them and they will dump them into history's garbage pit.

Italian President Pertini Leaves 28 Nov
JN281700 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Italian President Alessandro Pertini left Amman this afternoon, ending his 3-day visit to Jordan. His Majesty King Husayn headed those seeing off the guest at Amman airport.

Andreotti Leaves 27 Nov
JN271933 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs Giulio Andreotti left Amman this afternoon. He was seen off at Amman civil airport by Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim and the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry.

Cypriot Minister Arrives With Message for Husayn
JN281559 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Amman, 28 Nov (PETRA) — Yeoryios Andreou, Cypriot minister of commerce and industry, arrived in Amman this afternoon on a 1-day visit to Jordan during which he will deliver a message to His Majesty King Husayn from the Cypriot president. Muhammad Salih al-Hurani, Ministry of Industry and Trade under secretary, and a number of senior Foreign Ministry officials received the Cypriot minister at the airport. The Cypriot minister is accompanied by Cyprus' ambassador to Jordan.

Al-Lawzi Receives Cypriot Minister
JN281933 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Amman —Ahmad al-Lawzi, Royal Hashemite Court chief, received Yeoryios Andreou, Cypriot minister of commerce and industry, in his office this evening. Al-Lawzi received from the Cypriot minister a message to King Husayn from Cypriot President Spiros Kiprianou. The Cypriot ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

Turkish President To Visit Jordan in December
JN291015 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Amman — A responsible source at the Royal Hashemite Court has announced that at the invitation of His Majesty King Husayn, Turkish President Kenan Evren will pay an official visit to Jordan from 3-5 December 1983.

AR-RA'Y: USSR Journalists Delegation Arrives 28 Nov
JN290737 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 29 Nov 83 p 30

[Excerpt] Amman, (PETRA) — A delegation of the USSR Union of Journalists arrived in Amman yesterday on a weeklong visit to Jordan, within the framework of the exchange of visits between the USSR Union of Journalists and the Jordanian Pressmen Association.

Information Minister on Terrorism, Arab Policy
PM281519 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 26 Nov-2 Dec 83 p 32

[Interview with Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah by Huda al-Murr in Amman — date not specified]

[Text] Jordanian Minister of Information 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, in an exclusive interview with *AL-MAJALLAH*, has spoken about the recent wave of terror against Jordanian diplomats abroad. He described the perpetrators as belonging to a "terrorist organization" whose members include prisoners in Jordanian jails. The Jordanian minister also touched on the Iraq-Iran war and the Jordanian attitude toward it and discussed Egypt's Arab role at present. The following is text of the interview:

Question: What is the cause of the recent wave of terror against Jordan?

Answer: The assassination attempts against some of our diplomats were carried out by a terrorist organization. We were expecting this as we had learned that some of our ambassadors would be the target of a wave of terror. What is the reason? Some members of this organization have been held in Jordan; that is, we have arrested some of them. The organization's reaction — as is customary of terrorists — was to launch a campaign of assassinations in an attempt to pressure us into releasing the detainees.

Question: To whom do these detainees belong?

Answer: Unfortunately they are Arabs.

Question: What measures Jordan does intend to take in this regard?

Answer: The first step is that we will not release the terrorists in our jails. The terrorists abroad will not terrorize us; we will not barter with terror and we will not submit to it. If we submit to them it means that we are rewarding them. Naturally Jordan does not and will not reward terror because this would mean increasing and encouraging terror.

Question: Are there any new measures to be taken in order to protect Jordanian diplomats abroad?

Answer: No country in the world can protect its ambassadors abroad, particularly since an ambassador is usually under the protection of the host country. Of course, we have told the countries to which we have accredited diplomats to take adequate security measures for their protection.

Question: Do you expect Israel aggression in the present circumstances in the area.

Answer: I do not think that there will be aggression in the near future, but Israeli aggression does exist, though not necessarily militarily. Aggression exists with the continued Israeli occupation of the West Bank. The continuation of this occupation adversely affects us and causes us harm.

Question: Following the reopening of dialogue with Egypt do you believe that Egypt will play a military role in the event Jordan becomes the target of an Israeli attack?

Answer: I do not know because the considerations governing intervention in Arab states are not the same. Any aggression has its reasons, justifications, and dimensions. I believe that such matters can be determined only when they occur. Therefore, we cannot generalize with regard to the concept of war or peace where the Arab countries are concerned.

Question: Following Egypt's mending of relations with some of the Arab countries do you believe that Egypt will be able to disengage itself from the Camp David commitments if an Arab country becomes the target of an Israeli aggression?

Answer: If we go back to the agreements and to their interpretation I do not think that Egypt can help.

Question: Since the beginning Jordan has sided with Iraq in its war against Iran. How does this stand affect Jordan?

Answer: There is no doubt that the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war has adverse and harmful effects. Any harm befalling Iraq certainly affects Jordan. First of all, Iraq is a neighboring and sisterly state on our eastern borders. There is no doubt that the continuation of the war affects Iraq and us. The nature of the current war between Iraq and Iran poses serious dangers not only to Iraq and Jordan but also to the Arab physical constitution and the Arab ruling regime existing in this period of the 20th century.

Question: What do you mean?

Answer: I do not mean any Arab regime in particular, but the existing Arab regime represented by the Arab League, Arab solidarity, and the idea of Arabism, as well as the idea of Arab coordination. It is all these principles that are threatened because the objective sought by the Iranians in this war is to obliterate the Arab regime existing in the Arab world to be replaced in the area by a new regime, probably a religious and dogmatic regime. This is something new to the area. The outcome of the war could also affect the future of the Arab area historically. Of course, Jordan will be affected because it is one of the countries of the area. Now I am talking about the wider concepts of the results of this war without losing sight of the direct effect it will have on other aspects such as the economy and security of the whole Arab area.

Question: It has been reiterated that Jordan is concerned with Gulf security. Will Jordan be assigned a certain role if the Gulf war expands?

Answer: We must stress that Jordan always has a national role to play. When asked for help Jordan will not hesitate to give it if it can do so. If we go back to Jordan's history we will find that this is true. In the past Jordan gave assistance to a number of Gulf countries when it was asked for assistance by those countries. At a certain time in the past we even prepared our forces to go to Tunisia in order to help it in the war against the French. We also responded to Syria's request for help in its war with Israel. Jordan's history shows that we give help to any Arab country that may ask for it. For this reason I would say that if the Gulf becomes the target of any aggression we will not hesitate to give help. Likewise, if Jordan needs any help it expects to obtain it from its Arab brothers.

Question: Is the Jordanian Army prepared to fight any war in the present circumstances?

Answer: Of course, Jordan can detach a part of its forces in order to give support to anyone who may ask for its help.

Question: Jordan categorically denied the story of the so-called "Jordanian Rapid Deployment Force," saying that it was an Israeli invention.

Answer: Israel used expressions designed to harm Jordan's national role. As I said, Jordan is not talking about anything new or inventing something new. In all its past stands Jordan has given help to its Arab brothers whenever it could. In fact we asked for modern weapons from the United States, and Israel tried to block the deal. Shamir said: "Our attitude toward arming Jordan is no different from that toward arming any other Arab state. We will not allow any Arab state to arm as long as it is not in a state of peace with Israel." This was what Shamir frankly said. Therefore, the matter was an Israeli campaign against us simply because we asked for modern weapons from the United States. As for the Gulf, we are prepared to offer help and, as I have already said, this is not something new to us.

Question: It is being said that Jordan will be one of the countries that will have a Soviet air defense system.

Answer: The truth is that we have purchased part of our air defenses from the Soviet Union. The air defense system in Jordan is partly Soviet and partly American. We have Hawk missiles as well as SAM missiles. The latter deal was concluded and they were installed some time ago.

Question: What are the sources of your armament at present?

Answer: Where do we get our arms from? There are no limitations on this; we have U.S., French, British, and Soviet arms but the United States remains the primary source of armament for Jordan. There are two conditions for armament: First the availability of the type of the required arms and, second, the availability of funds for purchasing arms.

AD-DUSTUR on Israeli-PLO Prisoner Exchange

JN261234 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0516 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Greater Than Humanitarian

Aspect," *AD-DUSTUR* says: In addition to the humanitarian aspect, the PLO — Israel exchange of prisoners that resulted in the release about 5,000 Palestinian and Lebanese strugglers has included political aspects of deep significance, especially now when the PLO and its legitimate leadership are facing a difficult ordeal. In addition to the popular satisfaction this exchange created in various Palestinian and Arab circles and the praise of the Palestinian leadership's wisdom and its ability to give in the most difficult circumstances and time, the PLO regained a great deal of its prestige, credibility, and political activity as a result of the prisoner exchange.

No observer can ignore the importance of the timing of the exchange, the difficult military and political circumstances in which the exchange took place, or the great international efforts being devoted to make it succeed. Hence, we can understand why the dissidents and their allies, who have realized the ethical and political repercussions the exchange will have on the PLO leadership and the deep significance of such a great achievement in the current situation, shelled the port of Tripoli during the exchange.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: There is no doubt that the importance of the exchange in the current situation is not only to score points between the PLO's legitimate leadership and those conspiring against it, but also to cover the more important side — the conflict between the PLO and their historical enemy in occupied Palestine. Whatever is said in Israel about the PLO now, nobody in Israel will ignore the existence of the PLO, which conducted the negotiations on the exchange with political efficiency, in a humane way, and with the effectiveness of relatively equal rivals.

Press Reviews Tripoli Cease-fire Agreement

JN261218 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0510 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Tripoli Is Not a Settlement," *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* says: A few hours after the success of the Saudi mediation in Damascus and the reaching of a cease-fire agreement, the dissidents' radio station in the Nahr al-Barid Refugee Camp broadcast a statement saying that the dissidents refuse to consider Tripoli a peaceful city, and that they insist on the PLO Executive Committee chairman and his forces departing from Tripoli and then entering the city themselves.

What causes more pain than the Palestinian internecine fighting is the shedding of the blood of old men and children, and the fear that the warring parties' guns have planted in the souls of the children in the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid Refugee Camps as well as in Tripoli. However, our fear for our children in those areas will not ignore the basic situation that has prompted us and every concerned nationalist to reject the internecine fighting, the human and materialistic waste, and the deviation of Arab arms in general, and Palestinian arms in particular, from their main mission — namely, fighting the Zionist invaders and defending the Arab rights, homeland, and future.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B adds: The fact is that we are not accusing anybody when we say that the insistence on entering Tripoli exposes the superficial and irresponsible view of those who insist on entering Tripoli. It is as if this Arab and Islamic city is a Jewish settlement, and those who insist on entering it want to regain its Arabism and the Arab nation's right.

'Arafat's presence in Tripoli was the result of the tragic situation that followed the Beirut siege and the Palestinian resistance's departure from it. This presence in Tripoli represents a geographical, real separation from liberation after the Beirut siege and the massacres that followed. If the presence of Yasir 'Arafat and his forces in Tripoli is considered a coercive matter, imposed by a situation for which history will not forgive us for generations, how can other Arab forces, regardless of their identity and their commander, moving into Tripoli become a goal and demand equivalent to the cease-fire agreement that every honest Arab individual tried to reach? Such a stand is a deviation from the objective. This deviation used arms instead of logic, and had unpredictable objectives.

Under the headline "A Glimmer Amid Darkness," *AR-RA'Y* says: It is difficult to predict the future of the cease-fire agreement that has been reached in northern Lebanon. After approving it, the dissidents declared their rejection of this agreement. They then asserted that they would abide by the agreement. This situation makes us ask a question that cannot be answered now. The question is: Will Tripoli be saved from the tragedy? Will a peaceful dialogue begin with the PLO?

The unsteadiness manifested in the dissidents' stand does not create satisfaction. This stand may prompt the Arab leaders to hasten to adopt a unanimous stand through which they declare their insistence on implementing the agreement without delay. We must remind that Arab efforts should continue until all of the provisions of the agreement are implemened. The Arabs must also facilitate the implementation. We assert that the failure to implement the agreement will not only frustrate the Arab masses, but will also harm the Arab reputation in the international arena. The Arab leaders must consider this fact.

AR-RA'Y concludes: The Arab masses consider the quick implementation of the peace agreement in northern Lebanon as the glimmer in the patch darkness surrounding the Arab situation. The Arab masses have the right to see this glimmer, and the Arab leaders are responsible for safeguarding this glimmer. It may one day become a torch that will remove darkness and renew the hope of building an Arab reality that will be able to face all challenges.

Finance Minister Presents 1984 Budget

JN281736 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Finance Minister Salim Masa'idah has stated that the 1984 budget is estimated at 776.7 million Jordanian dinars, which is approximately equivalent to this year's budget of 775.37 million dinars with no growth worthy of mention. He said the estimated revenues for next year are 449 million dinars, 53

million more than the current year's revenues. The Arab assistance for the year 1984 is estimated at 183 million dinars compared with 215 million for the current year. Domestic and foreign loans are estimated at 21 million dinars; and the development loans with easy terms are estimated at 106 million compared with 86 million for the current year.

In his 1984 budget statement, which he read today at the National Consultative Council, Masa'idah said that when the estimated expenditure of 776.7 million dinars is compared with the revenues and loans estimated at 759 million dinars, a 17.7 million dinar deficit is expected, that is 2.6 percent of the budget and 3.6 percent of local revenues. He said such a deficit is very low and reasonable by all financial and economic standards.

The minister said that the world economic depression has affected the Arab region in general and the Jordanian economy in particular, something which affected our revenues and the Arab aid to Jordan. The government, he said, has worked in difficult circumstances to reduce the negative effects of this depression and to deal with the great reduction in revenues. Thuss, the government was able to overcome the difficult crisis which has now begun to ease. The minister added that despite the limited resources and the negative effects of the world depression and inflation, the gross national product has developed. In terms of the current prices, the gross national product has reached 1,897 million dinars compared to 1,712 million last year.

The minister made it clear that one of the main aims which the government endeavored to achieve in the draft budget is to preserve the standards of our Armed Forces in terms of training and armaments, and to maintain the general security apparatus so as to ensure their ability to defend the homeland and preserve its internal and external security, and to shoulder Jordan's pan-Arab responsibility in defending the Arab nation. The budget aims also include meeting the state's internal and external financial obligations, settling debts and loans, and paying the interest on these debts and loans on time. The budget also takes into account Jordan's continuous ability to meet its obligations toward our brothers in the occupied territory, and to fulfill our pledges to them in order to enhance their steadfastness on their land.

The draft budget aims at realizing one of the basic aims of the 5-year plan; namely, the ability to achieve self-reliance so that our revenues can meet the state's expenditure, and so that the modern living requirements are met through the spread of water supply and electricity to the most remote areas in the Kingdom. The government has allocated the necessary funds for this purpose, as well as for subsidizing fuel, power, and certain foodstuffs.

The minister expressed the government's thanks to fraternal Saudi Arabia and Kuwait for meeting their pan-Arab obligations toward Jordan and for paying their shares on time. He affirmed that the other fraternal states have not abandoned their obligations and will meet them as soon as their financial circumstances make this possible.

U.S. To Reconsider 17 May Israeli-Lebanese Accord

NC291133 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil today discussed with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim and Lebanese Ambassador in Rome Dr Khalil Haddad the subjects that will be raised during the Lebanese-Italian summit.

The political move in Rome is accompanied by a Lebanese move at the security level with a view to reaching a conclusive formula for the consolidation of the cease-fire agreement. Contacts for this purpose were resumed through the Security Arrangements Committee which arrived in Rome yesterday to deal with the question of the withdrawals and the deployment of the Lebanese Army in the mountains as well as the deployment of Italian and Greek observer forces with the Army on the hot axes in the mountains.

Meanwhile, new developments have emerged that are in Lebanon's interest with regard to the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon. These developments are represented by the declaration made by a U.S. diplomat in Washington to the effect that the United States and Israel have decided to reconsider the Israeli-Lebanese agreement that was concluded on 17 May and that is rejected by Syria.

President al-Jumayyil Visits Italy, Meets Leaders

For Italian and Lebanese reportage on President al-Jumayyil's visit to Italy, and his talks with Prime Minister Craxi, President Pertini, and Pope John Paul II, see the Italy section of the 28 November Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

U.S. Senate Delegation Visits Sidon, Tyre

NC281430 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] The U.S. Senate delegation, which is currently visiting Lebanon, today visited Sidon and Tyre where it met with some leaders and acquainted itself with the living and social conditions in the area in the wake of the Israeli incursion.

Iranian Presidential Envoy Tours Al-Biqa'

GF281740 Tehran IRNA in English 1725 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 28, IRNA — Iran's presidential adviser Mostafa Mirsalim Sunday visited Al-Biqa' valley and also inspected signs evidencing crimes committed in Lebanon by the French and Zionist forces.

He also visited a headquarters of the Islamic Revolutions Guards and Lebanese Muslim forces in Ba'labakk and Janta and on behalf of the Iranian president condemned the hideous crimes committed upon the Lebanese people. He also lauded the high morale of Muslim forces in the two areas. Mr Mirsalim arrived in Damascus Friday heading a Foreign Ministry delegation.

Hezbollah Official Warns Multinational Force

NC290654 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Shaykh Subhi at-Tufayli, a Hezbollah official in Ba'labakk, has warned against the U.S., French, Italian, and British forces staying in Lebanon. He said: It has become certain to us that our enemies will not leave our country unless we fight them; these forces must leave Lebanon or else there will be nothing between us and them other than fighting. At-Tufayli added: They are placing earth and dogs around the White House and are conducting searches. They are doing the same thing around the French [Government] departments. Do they think that they will succeed? At-Tufayli made an oath by God that death will reach them at the hands of the believers [al-mu'minin] even if theyare in lofty fortresses.

Shaykh Mahir Mahmud, [not further identified] said that Hezbollah is bigger than a group and a party and it is also bigger than a local organization. Itincludes, according to Mahmud, all those who have taken God as a patron and have understood the true facts of Islam. At-Tufayli and Mahmud's statements were made in a eulogy ceremony after the passage of a week following the death of Hezbollah members who were killed in an Israeli raid on the movement's Ash-Sha'rah camp in Janta. The ceremony, which was held in Brital in the Ba'labakk area, was attended by Husayn al-Musawi, and 'Isa Tabataba'i, a representative of the Iranian leader.

Libyan Charge d'Affaires Departs Beirut 28 Nov

NC290750 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Following the Lebanese Government's decision to freeze relations with Libya, Muhammad al-Fayturi, the charge d'affaires of the Libyan Brotherhood Bureau, left Beirut yesterday.

Damascus Reports Karami's Press Conference

JN282105 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Rashid Karami, former Lebanese prime minister and chairman of the Tripoli Higher Coordination Committee, at noon today met with a number of Tripoli personages and functionaries to discuss the necessary practical steps to implement the agreement that was recently reached in Damascus on ending the inter-Palestinian fighting in Tripoli and northern Lebanon. During the meeting, it was decided to form three committees. They are the political committee, the social committee, and the security committee. At the end of the meeting Karami held a press conference:

[Begin video recording] All of you know that the tragic situation in Tripoli and northern Lebanon was the focus of attention of the brothers in Syria and Saudi Arabia in particular, and in the Arab world and the world at large in general. We would like first to congratulate the Syrian people and to congratulate ourselves for His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad's recovery and we want to thank him and His Majesty King Fahd for their efforts which

resulted in the announcement of an agreement that was formulated by the two countries' foreign ministers. This agreement specifies that the cease-fire and its entrenchment are a prelude to a dialogue and to a peaceful solution among the Palestinian brothers, who are fighting one another with the purpose of safeguarding the PLO's unity and carrying out a joint action to achieve the objectives of liberation and repatriation. In its fourth clause, the agreement stipulates that all the fighters must withdraw with all their weapons and entrusts the Tripoli Higher Coordination Committee with the task of adopting measures to carry out this mission. This clause also stipulates that Ministers Khaddam and Sa'ud al-Faysal will be ready to provide all the assistance that we may require.

That is why I today invited this esteemed committee, comprising Tripoli personages and functionaries, to exchange viewpoints and hold consultations on this task with which we have been entrusted. We reviewed the practical measures for formulating our concept and the program to implement what is required.

From this premise, we believe that the fighters who came from abroad must leave for abroad. As for the other fighters, who were originally in the north, they must be given the choice of either leaving with their comrades or returning to the refugee camps. We must make available all the appropriate conditions for the implementation of this solution.

As for the fighters of the upheaval, they have to return to the refugee camps, and not necessarily to Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid. They also must be, as they themselves had announced, in the areas, places, and positions which will help them in performing their national duties. I am aware that in order to formulate the comprehensive plan, we must contact the concerned parties, take their views, desires, and demands into consideration and in light of these formulate our plan of action. This is what we began to do immediately, either directly or through third parties. I would like here to announce, on behalf of Tripoli and northern Lebanon in light of the stands and the principles that have been adopted, that we reject internecine fighting among the brothers and are working to eliminate the causes and factors of this internecine fighting not only for the sake of Tripoli, its inhabitants, and northern Lebanon, but also for the sake of preserving the Palestinian revolution's capability and potentials so that it may be able to exploit all its potentials in the sphere of the sound struggle.

We would like to reiterate that our work for the sake of Tripoli and northern Lebanon is the same in service of our joint causes because Tripoli is the lofty national bastion and cannot be relinquished. All of us are dutybound to protect it so that it may be employed in the sphere of the sound national and militant action. There are also dispersed people, and those who have been harmed in Tripoli. We must work to have them regain their homes and to restore normal life to Tripoli. We also appeal to the Arab brothers and all those who can do something to help us so that we may be able to help these people and end the affliction that has befallen them. I thank you once again and hope that we shall be united in our struggle, which is led by Syria, to confront all the tools of evil, aggression, and occupation, beginning with the collaborators and ending with Zionism and colonialism. [end video recording]

One Marine Wounded in Airport Shelling 28 Nov
NC290553 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Last night the Marines were placed in a state of maximum alert after artillery shells fell on the U.S. Marine positions at the Beirut airport. One Marine was wounded. This was preceded by artillery and rocket shelling of the Lebanese Army positions in the mountain, Khaldah, and the southern suburbs of Beirut from the positions of the Junblatt elements and their allies in upper Al-Matn, Sawfar, and Ruwaysat an-Nu'man. Several attempts were made to reach a cease-fire, the latest being around 2230, but the sound of sporadic shelling continued to be heard until late in the night. At the same time sniper fire was enveloping the axes of the southern suburbs aimed at the Army and residential quarters.

U.S. F-14s Fly 'Reconnaissance Sorties'
NC290949 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] At 1008 U.S. F-14 planes flew in Lebanese airspace on routine reconnaissance sorties. It was noticed that the U.S. planes, when flying over the mountain, emit rays [tursilu lada tahliqiha fawq al-jabal ish'a'atin] which protect the planes and prevent the antiaircraft missiles [from hitting them] without this affecting the reconnaissance operations. At 1110 Israeli planes overflew at a high altitude. [sentence as heard]

RFL Says Socialists Violate Cease-Fire
NC281642 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Socialist gunmen and their collaborators intensified their attacks on Lebanese Army posts in the mountain this afternoon and did not abide by the cease-fire agreement, which was reached at 1620. Shells continued to fall on the Kayfun hills and Qabr Shmun from Baysur and Shimlan. In Beirut's southern suburbs, the Army positions in Saqyy al-Hadath, the Old Sidon Road, and in the area extending from Mar Mikha'il to the Sfayr Area were subjected to antiarmor fire and RPGs from the Communist and Khomeynite positions.

VOL Reports Cease-Fire Agreement Reached
NC281738 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1720 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Following the contacts that the Security Arrangements Committee had today, the committee members reached a cease-fire agreement which will go into effect at 1930. [1730 GMT]

Israelis Conduct Raids, Fly Training Sorties
NC291030 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] In Sidon and its environs, Israeli forces have continued their raids and arrest campaigns. During the past 48 hours, these

forces launched a series of searches that included buildings in several residential quarters. Among those arrested are Bassam az-Zayn, Zuhayr az-Zayn, Khalil Sinjir, a member of the al-Hallaq family, a member of the Sinjir family, Labib as-Sabbagh, and another person of the Al-'Agha family. In another development, Israeli planes have staged training sorties lasting over one hour. They flew in a formation of three fighters over An-Nabatiyah, Az-Zahrani, and Sidon. They then flew westward and then returned to fly over the Tyre area.

2 Killed in Amal Office Explosion in Beirut

NC290943 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] After midnight last night there was an explosion inside an office of the Amal movement in Burj al-Barajinah in Beirut. The available information indicates that two persons were killed and a number of people were wounded.

Communist Leader Cables 'Arafat on POW Release

JN251731 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Nov 83

[Text] Muhsin Ibrahim, secretary general of the Communist Action Organization in Lebanon, today sent a cable to Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat. In the cable, he praised 'Arafat on behalf of the Lebanese nationalists for the continued and firm efforts which he exerted for the release of the Lebanese, Palestinian, and Arab POWs from Ansar camp which Israel used as aninstrument to terrorize the Lebanese people and as a prison forthe heroes of the Arab resistance. He added that the day of the POWs release will remain an eternal day in the history of thenationalist and glorious Lebanese-Palestinian alliance and a bright sign on the path of the joint struggle.

Ulema To Stage Sit-in Protest at Sidon Mosque

NC281134 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 28 Nov

[Text] In the south, following the festival that was held yesterday in the Al-Husayniyah building in Sidon on the anniversary of [themartyrdom] of Al-Husayn ibn 'Ali, at the invitation of the ulema of Jabal 'Amil and Sidon, the ulema held a meeting in the evening during which they discussed the steps that should be taken to confront the arbitrary Israeli measures. It was decided to escalate the uprising in the south. It was also decided that the Muslim ulema will stage a sit-in at the Az-Za'tari mosque in Sidon as of Saturday.

Assassins of Bashir's Daughter Sentenced to Death

NC261015 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Text] The military court today sentenced Nazih Sha'ya and Joseph Kazazian to death and sentenced Milad Musa to life imprisonment at hard labor. The three are charged with the assassination attempt on the late President Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil and with the murder of his daughter Maya on Al-'Akkawi ascent in Al-Ashrafiyah on 23 February 1980.

Correction to Report on Al-Asad Hospitalization

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Al-Asad Reportedly To Be Hospitalized Abroad," published in the 28 November Middle East and Africa *DAILY REPORT*, page G 5, first paragraph, line nine:

...We have carried this report as was conveyed to us by diplomatic Arab sources in Damascus. (including dropped words)

Cabinet Meets, Reviews 'Current Situation'

JN281312 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm chaired a Cabinet meeting today at 1100. At the beginning of this session, the Cabinet expressed its appreciation of the affection, sincerity, and loyalty shown by the Syrian people for their president and leader, Hafiz al-Asad, on his recovery from illness. In this way, the people have asserted their belief in the principles and ideals embodied in President Hafiz al-Asad's leadership. It is also clear that they have fully attained a great and effective pan-Arab role, the comprehensive and militant obligations of which have been assumed by Syria under the president's wise and brave leadership.

During this meeting, the Cabinet also extended its warm congratulations to the entire Syrian Arab people on the president's recovery, emphasizing that the process of construction, struggle, and liberation will continue. The determination of the people, party, front, and leader to continue and heighten their resolve in the confrontation with the various challenges facing Syria and the Arab nation was similarly stressed.

The Cabinet then reviewed various aspects of the current political and military situation in the region. Emphasis was placed on Syria's ability and complete readiness to confront all forms of threat and aggression. The Cabinet then discussed the topics on the agenda and approved a number of draft laws and decrees.

Al-Asad Congratulates Albanian, Yugoslav Leaders

JN281601 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1425 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 28 Nov (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad sent a congratulatory cable today to Ramiz Alia, chairman of the Albanian People's Assembly Presidium, on the occasion of his country's national day. In his message, President al-Asad conveyed both his own best wishes and warm greetings and those of the Syrian Arab people to the Albanian leader and the friendly Albanian people.

President al-Asad also sent a congratulatory cable to Yugoslav President Mika Spiljak on Yugoslavia's national day. President al-Asad extended best wishes to the Yugoslav president and wishes for progress and prosperity to the Yugoslav people.

Ash-Shar' on Fatah 'Conflict,' French Raid

JN281056 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 26 Nov 83 pp 16, 17

[Dispatch from Damascus by Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh and Marwan al-Mahayini]

[Excerpt] The foreign affairs and information portfolios are rarely assumed by one person. However, when one person does serve in both posts, he must be distinguished on more than one level and in more than one respect.

Faruq ash-Shar' has been held two offices — minister of state for foreign affairs and minister of information — for roughly 1 year. Therefore, any diplomat or journalist who visits Damascus stops in to see Ash-Shar', because he knows the whole picture and is acquainted with all the facts, answers, and limits of argument.

In view of his two important posts, he reads all Arabic publications and keeps abreast of what is written about Syria in the world press. Needless to say, he also listens to all relevant radio broadcasts.

The question that naturally arises by virtue of recent developments must certainly relate to the current Fatah conflict, which has taken on grave, bloody, and regrettable dimensions.

Minister ash-Shar' answered calmly: 'Arafat is accusing us of fighting against him. We reply by asking: Is Fatah without tanks? Have those who staged the uprising not done so with their weapons, including tanks? Therefore, he ['Arafat] has Fatah tanks as do his opponents. Thus, his talk about the involvement of our tanks is untrue. Moreover, we ask 'Arafat — with the Palestinian brothers, all Arabs, and the world as witnesses: Would the battle have gone on as long as it did were the Syrian Armed Forces fighting against 'Arafat? He continues: Had Syrian tanks fought alongside 'Arafat's opponents, the battle would have been settled more than 1 year ago. However, 'Arafat, who failed to solve the internecine conflict within Fatah, began to blame Syria. 'Arafat also suffers delusions regarding a regional settlement in which he would play a role. We believe that there are currently no circumstances at all which would allow the conclusion of a just, lasting, or comprehensive settlement or peace. This has been borne out by events.

Minister Ash-Shar' continues: 'Arafat's insistence on creating a conflict with Syria — a policy he has pursued for more than a year — falls within the framework of a specific plan. The goal of this plan is to ignore the Palestinian people's rights and liquidate the Arab-Zionist conflict at the expense of these rights, since these rights are the cause and essence of the conflict. When 'Arafat left Beirut, he believed that he, personally and alone, had [the right to make] the Palestinian decision on participation in the so-called settlement. This was bolstered by the reception and hospitality extended to him at the Fes conference by everyone except President al-Asad.

We believe, Ash-Shar' adds, that 'Arafat's line, as well as his arrival in Tripoli and his insistence on staying there, constitute a grave stand and involve a considerable amount of responsibility. He put himself in a critical situation in order to demonstrate that the Palestinian Arab people and the Palestinian question are in a critical situation. We believe this plan should be foiled. Therefore, we support — politically and morally — those Palestinian forces which oppose him.

Asked whether a meeting with 'Arafat has become impossible, Ash-Shar' said: When 'Arafat succeeds in resolving the conflict within Fatah through dialogue among the opposing parties, and if he remains within the leadership that emerges from the dialogue once the conflict is resolved, well, that will be something

else. Naturally, Syria will support any new leadership with unanimous approval, even if 'Arafat is a member.

What about the independent Palestinian decision? Ash-Shar' replies: The subject of the Arab-Zionist conflict is a pan-Arab issue that concerns all Arabs. We not allow ourselves nor any Arab party to act unilaterally. As-Sadat attempted this and failed;there are others who imagine that unilateral solutions are possible, and are trying to implement them. As-Sadat is an eloquent lesson in this regard. Had we acted unilaterally, we would have regained the Golan without a fight. Our stand is clear; our national welfare is equivalent to the well-being of the entire Arab region.

We then moved to another subject. The Israeli and French raids were conducted without any reaction from Syria. There was a Syrian reply to the Israeli raid on the positions of the progressive socialists — a reply that resulted in the downing of two Israeli aircraft. We asked him about the Syrian reaction to these raids. He began his answer by indicating that Syria was not responsible for destroying the Beirut headquarters of the U.S. Marines and the French troops. He added that the vehicle which blew up the Marines' Headquarters had passed through three U.S. checkpoints without being discovered. He then asked: How and why do they blame others?

Continuing, he notes: Regarding the raids, our stand toward any act of aggression — large or small — is clear and has been openly declared. The French raid was small, but was exaggerated for the purposes of French domestic affairs. The Lebanese and Palestinian people hold France fully responsible for this. However, our stands and practices are firm and based upon principles. They are not reactionary, because we make our own decisions. It must be said that, through their latest position, the French have entered a dangerous turning point which will reflect on all Arab-French relations. Every Arab now believes that France wants to return to its colonialist role in the region. It must also be noted that in view of the simultaneous presence of Israeli, French, U.S., and British aircraft over Beirut, air raids are being coordinated. There is even a joint operations room for all these aircraft. Thus, we find that Western-U.S.-Israeli collusion has been completely exposed.

Oil Minister on Iraqi Pipeline, Arms Sales

GF251424 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 24 Nov 83 p 19

[Interview with Dr 'Abd al-Jabbar ad-Dahhak, minister of oil and natural resources, by Wafa' Khuffaji, in Kuwait — date not given]

[Excerpt] [Khuffaji] Do you believe that the reasons for preventing the passage of Iraqi oil through the pipeline which crosses Syria are about to be resolved?

[Ad-Dahhak] These reasons are political, and any stoppage of the oil was not due to technical factors. So long as the reasons which led to that stoppage continue to exist, I do not believe that oil will flow, because the actions which undermined our security originated in Iraq. This led to the closing of the border, the cutting of roads, and the interruption of the flow of oil in order to secure the safety of our citizens. We only stopped the flow of oil in 1982; that is, we permitted oil to flow for 1 and 1/2 years after the eruption of the [Iran-Iraq] war.

[Khuffaji] It is said that Syria receives oil from Iran in exchange for arms and that it buys Iranian oil at a reduced rate. Is this true?

[Ad-Dahhak] Syria has no arms to sell. Those which we do have are all for our own Army. But we do buy oil in exchange for such commodities as cement, clothing, and glass, in addition to making credit purchases which are paid off in dollars. The agreement is clear and the goods we export are known. However, this is part of the campaign which Syria has recently been subjected to. It is regrettable that when we examine the press today we find that emphasis is being placed on these lateral problems, while other questions are being ignored. I refer here to the entry visas that Israel forces on those Lebanese who go to visit their homes in southern Lebanon. This procedure is a prelude to annexation; it was already seen in the cases of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. This is an attempt to distract the public from the main issues. There is no doubt that the perpetrators of this campaign are the ones who benefit from it — be it the United States, Israel, or their satellites. They are seeking to implement a big and serious plot, but Syria will stand firmly against all such plans.

Khaddam Receives Saudi National Guard Official

JN281556 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1405 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 28 Nov (SANA) — 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, received 'Abd al-'Aziz at-Tuwayjiry, deputy commander of the Saudi National Guard, here today. They discussed the current Arab situation.

Soviet Ambassador Reaffirms 'Full Support'

PM281309 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 22 Nov 83 pp 1, 11

[Unattributed report: "Yukhin: We Are Following Regional Developments With Extreme Interest. We Agree With Syria That the International Situation Is Serious. Our Support for You Under President Al-Asad's Leadership Is Firm"]

[Text] Damascus (SANA) — Soviet Ambassador in Damascus Vladimir Yukhin has reaffirmed his country's firm, continuous, and full support for Arab Syria's just struggle under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad against the designs and intrigues of imperialism and Zionism. He also emphasized that the Soviet of the international situation, which is now in a very serious phase indeed. He added that the Soviet Union is watching developments in the region with extreme interest.

The ambassador noted that bilateral relations are growing steadily on the basis of the Friendship and Cooperation Treaty.

Yukhin made these remarks during his meeting yesterday morning with People's Assembly Speaker Comrade Mahmud az-Zu'bi, to whom he conveyed greetings from Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union Shitikov and

Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities Ruben.

Yukhin noted that he is highly satisfied with both the current state and development of bilateral relations in all fields.

Referring to Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's visit to the USSR and its positive and important results, Yukhin confirmed the commonality of Soviet and Syrian views of the regional situation, particularly in the Lebanese and Palestinian arenas.

Comrade az-Zu'bi expressed deep appreciation of the Soviet Union's steady support for the just Arab cause and for our people's struggle for liberation — under the leadership of President al-Asad — against the aggressive designs and challenges of imperialism and Zionism.

Comrade az-Zu'bi reaffirmed our people's determination and unshakable will to continue the struggle under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad until the aims of the battle for development and liberation are fulfilled.

Comrade az-Zu'bi expressed an interest in more intensive contacts, exchanges of visits at various levels and in various fields, exchanges of information and expertise, and coordination of attitudes in the service of the two friendly countries' common interests, particularly at the parliamentary level.

He also asked the ambassador to convey his greetings and thanks to Shitikov and Ruben for their greetings and confirmation of the Soviet Union's firm and continuous support for Syria.

Az-Zu'bi Receives Outgoing Cuban Ambassador
JN281402 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1325 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 28 Nov (SANA) — At 1000 today, People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi received Cuban Ambassador to Damascus Lester Rodriguez, who came to bid him farewell prior to ending his tour of duty in Syria.

During the meeting, they discussed relations between the two friendly countries, particularly at the parliamentary level. The ambassador also expressed pleasure at President Hafiz al-Asad's recovery, saying: On this occasion we share your joy, which is also ours. He added: We were very pleased to see the president in good health on television yesterday.

The People's Assembly speaker thanked him and praised the close friendship which exists between President Hafiz al-Asad and President Fidel Castro.

He also praised Cuba's stand on the just Arab cause, as well as its position on issues of liberation throughout the world, its support for peoples fighting to defend their freedom and independence against forced association and imperialist hegemony, and its continuing struggle against U.S. imperialist and Zionist designs.

CSSR Envoy Expresses 'Joy' at Al-Asad's Recovery
JN281616 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1410 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 28 Nov (SANA) — Ilyas al-Lati, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command and chairman of the Syrian-CSSR Friendship Society, received the CSSR ambassador in Damascus and the embassy staff here today. The ambassador conveyed to him the congratulations of the CSSR leadership and people, and noted that they share in the Syrian people's joy at President Hafiz al-Asad's recovery. He added: President al-Asad is an important and prominent personality not only in the Arab homeland, at the international level as well. He enjoys the highest level of appreciation and respect from the socialist countries in general and from the CSSR in particular.

The ambassador also declared: We always support the firm, principled line which Syria has adopted under President Hafiz al-Asad. During the meeting, they reviewed all aspects of relations between the two friendly countries.

Nation Seen as 'Prepared To Retaliate'
JN281946 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen: Our Arab nation is currently passing through a delicate and decisive period during which the dispute with the forces of aggression has reached its peak. This raging dispute involves two opposing lines of action — the pan-Arab struggle, which rejects submission, and the course of defeatism, which is supported by the colonialists.

The dispute with the enemy is comprehensive and multifaceted. At times, this dispute comes in the form of a confrontation with military, economic, and political pressure; at other times it takes the form of retaliation against psychological warfare, which seeks to weaken morale and create chaos.

The colonialist forces and their agents in the area have realized that the great role which Syria has assumed constitutes a stumbling block in the face of all schemes aimed at imposing hegemony on this region. These forces tried to remove Syria from the struggle through attempts to weaken it, paralyze its will, and deprive it of its impact and influence in the Arab world. In order to achieve their objective, these forces used military actions, conspiracies, schemes, and slander. However, the march of and the positions adopted by the Syrian revolution have always proven that Syria is stronger than pressure and conspiracies, and that it is a bastion in the face of all attempts to impose hegemony on the region. Through its militant march, Syria has remained a symbol of steadfastness and a glorious image arousing hope in the spirit of the Arab masses, from the ocean to the Gulf. This image arose in the wake of the blessed Corrective Movement, led by the fighter Hafiz al-Asad. It was within this movement that he drew the solid bases of the path of struggle. Syria's military and economic strength has been reinforced, cohesion with the masses has been fortified, and Syria has worked for unifying

Arab efforts to liberate the occupied territories and confront the Zionist enemy. Syria has proven that — under its wise leadership and with its combative people — it is possible to confront any challenge. Events have demonstrated Syria's steadfastness and willingness to face all conspiracies, as well as its control of power and its ability to march persistently toward achieving the objectives of the Arab nation.

Through their long and meaningful experience, the Syrian masses have become aware of the rank conspiracies and open lies practiced by the greedy, the aggressive, and the conspiratorial. Through their alertness and ability to anayze, these masses have become a bastion in the face of all falsehood. They have also become fully aware of every contemptible method and effort to weaken their firmness and determination. These attempts have made the Syrian masses all the more determined, firm, and alert.

Yesterday, as the masses in all the cities and villages expressed their overwhelming happiness at the recovery of President Hafiz al-Asad, they were also expressing their unity with and support of this leadership, which led them along the path of struggle to victory and dignity. These masses staged an improvised, popular march to tell the aggressors and conspirators: We are pursuing the correct path — the path of Arab revolution, the path which will eliminate colonialist forces, the path of liberation and construction, the path of sacrifice. These masses marched to greet the symbol of fidelity, giving, struggle, hope, steadfastness, firmness, honor, and pride — their leader, the struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, who emerged from these masses to express their aspirations and hope. He has always worked with the masses for the cause of their homeland's dignity.

Yesterday's march was a decisive reply to the concentration of military force which is part of an intended act of aggression against Syria. The march served as a reminder to the aggressors that a nation whose masses are prepared to resist and struggle will not submit or be coerced. The aggressors must realize that these people are ready for confrontation, are determined to stand fast in the face of aggression, are the owners of the components of life, and are willing to give and offer sacrifices. These aggressors must realize that our people are one with their leadership, represented by he who directs their march, the struggler Hafiz al-Asad. These people have faith in their leader's capabilities and positions, which represent their own capabilities and reflect honorable, militant stands. The Syrian people, with their leader, are marching along the path of struggle, and are prepared at any time to retaliate against all enemy conspiracies.

Damascus Radio on U.S. 'Provocations'

JN271617 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, when the U.S. aggressor's planes fly over Lebanon in order to provoke and escalate tension, the United States wins no additional esteem or strength; such actions grant it no further glory or national pride. On the contrary, they place the United States on the level of its agents and tools, who have been and are still playing the role of those who are subservient and execute orders. This is sufficient to weaken the strength and degrade the esteem that are supposed to be the characteristics of a superpower such as the United States. The glory of any state is measured by its fulfillment of and readiness to assume responsibility. This is what is lacking in U.S. policy toward Lebanon, the Arab region, and the world as a whole.

The methods employed by the U.S. Administration are hostile to the spirit of the age, and contradict the nature of history. The return to colonialist campaigns signifies the employment of a method that has been proven a failure, become obsolete, and collapsed. It would have been better for the officials in the U.S. Administration to think about the impact of any adventure before embarking upon it. People no longer accept the logic of control, aggression, and threats. The time of trusteeship, mandate, and the right of power is gone forever. Unfortunately, the U.S. Administration has not yet realized this, despite the fact that its predecessors used the same methods being considered again today, and despite the fact that its predecessors taught them some indirect lessons.

Anyone who pays attention to the daily events in Lebanon will realize that the United States and Israel are playing identical rolesin accord with their strategic cooperation agreement. At a time when sabre rattling is taking place, and an increasing number of threats to use force are being made, the U.S. Administration and the Zionists make statements which prove that there is a plan to be implemented following the Israeli prime minister's talks in Washington. Of course, the U.S. and Zionist insistence on discussing what they have called the Syrian military buildup clearly proves that Syria is the major target of the hostile course jointly undertaken by the United States and Israel.

Signs that this act of aggression will indeed be launched have appeared in the form of semi-daily provocations presented by the U.S.-Israeli planes which violate those areas of Lebanon where our forces are present. This certainly means that the agreement to use hostile military force against Syria will come into effect following Shamir's talks in Washington. The essence of these talks will be devoted to a discussion of the details involved in launching this act of aggression.

Of course, Syria will exercise its right to self-defense. It will assume its national and pan-Arab duties and will prove itself equal to those duties. Syria is no easy prey; its strength lies in the support of its people, Army, and masses, who rally around Syria and bolster its steadfast and heroic stands. It is Syria which offers sacrifices, the generous Syria, Al-Asad's Syria.

TISHRIN on Washington's Regional 'Scheme'

JN271043 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0805 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 27 Nov (SANA) — *TISHRIN* expects that the visit to Syria by Lebanese Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, as well as his statements on the importance of Syrian-Lebanese cooperation, will be a cause of U.S. coolness or even hostility toward President Amin al-Jumayyil during his forthcoming visit to the United States.

In its editorial today, under the headline "The United States, Israel, and the Game of Threats," *TISHRIN* notes the comments recently carried in the U.S. media to the effect that Al-Jumayyil will be met with coolness should he raise the subject of amending the agreement of submission. This is so because Washington favors the success of the Zionist scheme in Lebanon over the survival of that nation.

TISHRIN asserts that Washington seeks neither a Lebanese national accord nor cooperation between Lebanon and Syria. Instead, it pursues only the continuation of the state of war among the sons of Lebanon and the exacerbation of hostility between Syria and Lebanon to serve both its scheme and that of the expansionist and aggressive Zionists.

TISHRIN adds that Washington's false concern about Lebanon's sovereignty and unity is exposed through its efforts to exacerbate the internecine fighting, and its own participation in this fighting by shelling the Lebanese people from the sea. Lebanon's sovereignty and unity cannot be attained by dividing the Arab community in general and the Syrian-Lebanese community in particular. This can be achieved only through honest and persistent work to resolve all problems.

Concluding its editorial, *TISHRIN* expresses the belief that the pressure will continue as long as Washington adheres to its cuurent positions, which are hostile to the Arabs and loyal to Israel. *TISHRIN* claims that in order to foil this pressure, it is important to confront it at the necessary level, as Syria does.

U.S. 'Insistence' on Shultz Agreement Analyzed
JN271006 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 27 Nov 83

[From the press review]

[Text] In today's editorial, *AL-BA'TH* says: Since the first phase of the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference in Geneva — which defined Lebanon's Arab identity and empowered President al-Jumayyil to hold consultations at both the Arab and the international level to extricate Lebanon from its almost uncontrollable crisis — the U.S. Administration and Israel have been affirming, both politically and militarily, their adherence to the Shultz agreement.

But before discussing these military and political manifestations, it would be better to first consider the motives that made these two partners insist on the agreement. It may not be necessary to make much of an effort here or go into excessive detail. Indeed, it is enough to point out that both the United States and Israel are of the opinion that the agreement of submission attains goals which serve their interests in Lebanon and throughout the region. These interests are no longer a secret, of course. The Zionist enemy has its expansionist designs and the U.S. Administration has its vital interests, as it has announced on more than one occasion. Therefore, the two partners view the Shultz agreement as the main key to their objectives. Therefore, they set about implementing it and resisting anyone who opposed its implementation. This explains the continuing U.S.-Zionist insistence on the agreement, an insistence which — as we said — has been manifested both militarily and politically.

AL-BA'TH continues: From the military point of view, the U.S. Administration has intensified its threats against Syria while simultaneously increasing its concentration of forces at sea and on the ground. This was followed by actual participation in the mountain battles, when the Marines played a role by firing on the positions of the progressive forces. Later, U.S. planes began reconnaisance sorties over Lebanon, the obvious short-term objective of which is to remind everyone of the possible recourse to armed force. This is in addition to other provocations which indicate a desire for aggression. This has been the U.S. military role so far. Now, what about Israel's role? It is clear that the Zionist partner has gone a step further in aggression with its recent air raid. We do not believe that this raid will be the last in the chain of expected military actions. Indeed, the sequence — and all its details — have already been agreed upon in Washington and Tel Aviv, as has been reported by the U.S. papers themselves.

As for the political aspect, it is shown in the daily statements made by U.S. officials to the media stressing insistence on the Shultz agreement. This means that the U.S. Administration is telling the Lebanese regime in advance not to bother with any request for the cancellation of the agreement. It is also telling all other parties that it is useless to embark on any contacts and consultations aimed at getting Lebanon out of its crisis. This clearly confirms that the United States and Israel want the crisis to continue and, consequently, seek the continuation of the state of chaos in the region as a whole. What is the answer to that?

AL-BA'TH concludes: Syria has given its word. Certainly, Syria does not go back on what it says, as its statements arise from firm, principled stands. Syria's objective is to protect Lebanon and the Arabs from the evils that are being planned against them. Syria has already proven its ability to do that. It now behooves the others to perform their national and pan-Arab role, the role which responds to the appeal of the homeland and the appeal of the masses, who long for stability and removal of the yoke of the U.S.-Zionist occupier.

Jordan's Role in Palestinian Issue Analyzed
JN271837 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Palestine broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] Brothers on the path of revolution and liberation: Imperialist and Zionist circles are now talking openly of the plan which has been drawn up to include the Jordanian regime in the U.S. negotiations for a regional settlement as an alternative to the PLO. They clearly state that 'Arafat's departure [from Tripoli] means that King Husayn will be an alternative to the PLO, and that the step related to reconvening the Jordanian Parliament, which has been announced by the king, is linked to this course. The king seeks to absolve himself of the responsibility inherent in the Rabat summit resolutions, particularly the one which describes the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. King Husayn has sought to achieve this

objective through Yasir 'Arafat himself. The king proposed the confederation plan in order to contain the PLO and form a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation, or, to obtain an authorization from the PLO to negotiate on its behalf. Yasir 'Arafat has agreed with the king on such an arrangement. Yasir 'Arafat hopes that the Palestinian right wing, led by him, will play a role in the settlement — a role in the autonomy of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. But the question is: Do King Husayn and those who have drawn up this plan believe that Yasir 'Arafat can be authorized by the institutions of the Palestinian revolution to take any such step? Or have they taken account of the fact that, since the beginning, 'Arafat's agreement means the explosion of the Palestinian situation, which rejects capitulation? They would use this development as a prelude to unilateral action by the king under the pretext that 'Arafat represents Palestinian legitimacy, and that his collapse does not mean the collapse of a person, but the collapse of the PLO's legitimacy.

It is obvious that they have drawn up a plan for 'Arafat to spark the situation in order to deal a blow to the PLO and find a crevice that will allow King Husayn to liquidate the Palestinian question. Yasir 'Arafat has played his role. Yasir 'Arafat has reached an impasse. He is rejected by Palestinian revolutionaries, and is a captive of the Arab reactionaries. The most that 'Arafat can hope to achieve is continued protection from the Arab reactionaries in return for additional services.

Shamir Reported Satisfied With Reagan Talks

TA281844 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Report by correspondent Connie Lon from Washington on 28 Nov — recorded]

[Excerpt] After his meeting with President Reagan, Prime Minister Shamir was upbeat:

[Begin recording] [Shamir] We had now a very friendly and good conversation with the President. It was the beginning of our talks in Washington. We will continue it in the afternoon with the secretary of state. I hope and believe that our visit will be a great contribution to the deepening and strengthening of the friendly relations between the United States and Israel. [end recording]

Press on Washington Trip

TA270942 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 27 Nov 83

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *DAVAR* says that the year prior to the U.S. presidential elections is usually a good year as far as the Israel-U.S. relations are concerned. This is now compounded by the fact that President Reagan needs Israel more than his predecessors did so that the Lebanese swamp into which the U.S. Marines have entered will not mar his election campaign. To this one should add an infrastructure of friendly relations which are characterized to a large degree by commonness of interests.

Hence, the prime minister and defense minister who are leaving for the United States today are expected to have a nice welcome and a good atmosphere in their high-level talks. Furthermore, it can be assumed and should be hoped that the talks will not be characterized only by warm words and ceremonious acts, but by practical results which Israel wants and deserves. As for the strategic coordination, it may be said that the content of this concept as Ari'el Sharon viewed it 2 years ago is surely unacceptable to the majority of the Israeli public. Elements of this issue may not be agreed on by all, but judgment should be reserved until all aspects are known. As for the future of the territories, we hope that the prime minister and defense minister will not rush to say "no" but will rather ask for time to discuss this matter. With these logical reservations in mind, we all wish them success.

HATZOFE writes that the U.S. visit of Shamir and Arens is taking place in the spring of Israeli-U.S. relations. Common interests vis-a-vis the Syrian strenghtening, Soviet expansionism, and the Lebanese crisis, coupled with the good atmosphere in bilateral relations, will leave their stamp on the talks and give us hope that the talks will result in real achievements for Israel. At the same time, one should not entertain exaggerated expectations since there are still numerous disagreements regarding the overall political process in the Middle East and especially regarding a solution to the Palestinian problem. The signals which King Husayn sent regarding his willingness to join the negotiations table may cause these disagreements to resurface.

THE JERUSALEM POST says that the remarks by Prime Minister Shamir to the effect that the settlement issue will not be raised in the talks in Washington are a shortsighted policy. The recent dramatic changes in the relations among Syria, Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO and Jordan may affect the chances of the peace process. The little Jerusalem can do to be prepared for these developments is to demonstrate a more openminded approach which will put the blame on the other party in case of a failure. The mere reiteration of well-known dogmas is useless.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes that Israel indeed needs friendly ties with the United States and certainly U.S. help and a possible political coordination which will meet Israel's interests and which will promote the regional peace process, but any other kind of cooperation which smacks of involvement in a global confrontation and which will turn Israel into an active anti-Soviet element will constitute a very concrete and grave danger for the security and survival of the country. Israel has been entangled in the Lebanese war more than enough. The Shamir government should be warned against the dangerous temptation to gamble on Israel's future by disastrous plans.

Kohen-Orgad Outlines Economic Forecast, Policy

TA282029 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Report by economic correspondent 'Oded Shahar in the television studio — videotaped]

[Text] This evening, Yig'al Kohen-Orgad outlined an economic forecast for the coming months which contains no drastic measures, or large-scale single devaluation, or massive cuts in subsidies. According to the finance minister, the budget cut has been completed, and the measures adopted so far meet the needs of the economy. At one time, the government wanted to cut $2 billion from its budget, but this evening it transpires that the cut in expenditures, the cancellation of 450 civil service positions, and all the new taxes amount to only 70 percent of the original target. One should also remember that some of the economic measures are still pending Knesset approval.

However, the Finance Ministry does not intend to adopt severe measures again, apparently due to the current crisis in the economy, the recession and galloping inflation being the major features. The conclusion to be drawn from the finance minister's remarks is that the price of the subsidized food commodities will go up 15-20 percent per month, and this will also denote the increase in the consumer price index and the pace of inflation. This is the state of affairs so far. In 2 weeks, however, the finance minister will present next year's state budget to his colleagues, the ministers, and will demand that another budget cut be effected. Minister Kohen-Orgad admits that a decline in the state's income from taxes is expected in the coming year, and thus a cut in expenditures will become absolutely necessary. The minister promises that no new taxes will be imposed, but if the planned cut in next year's budget meets with difficulties, the finance minister may decide on various taxes and levies.

If the Finance Ministry's plan materializes, 1984 will be a year of budgetary restraint, belt tightening, and an unprecedented

decrease of 10 percent or more in the standard of living. However, this is only a plan, and we have learned how difficult it is to implement a plan for state budget cuts.

Kohen-Orgad Interview 24 Nov

TA251537 Tel Aviv YOMAN HASHAVU'A in Hebrew 24 Nov 83 pp 15,16,17,18

["Exclusive" interview with Finance Minister Kohen-Orgad by Moshe Yahalom, Moshe Dahan, Adar Qeysari, and Yehuda Schiff, in the papers offices in Tel Aviv — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: You are known for your past membership in rightist youth movements. In a speech made by Jabotinsky in 1928, he said, among other things: "We have one altar, one flag, and that is settlement. There is nothing to rival that." Is not the official in charge of budgets in your Ministry acting counter to that policy in preventing the establishment of 2,000 out of the 4,000 housing units that have been allocated for Judaea and Samaria this year?

Answer: By no means. I suggest we get our facts straight. From the beginning of the present fiscal year until the end of March 1984, a start will have been made on about 4,000 housing units in Judaea and Samaria. The settlement momentum in Judaea and Samaria will continue. At the same time, we must bear in mind that the Golan Heights, Judaea and Samaria, and the Gaza District form an integral part of Eretz Yisra'el, and as such they, too, must be subject to the cutbacks that affect the economy as a whole. Naturally, settlement in those parts of Eretz Yisra'el will have budget priority in view of their national importance.

Question: In an interview you gave to *YOMAN HASHAVU'A* over 6 months ago, you said that our economic dependence upon the United States would weaken our strength to stand up to pressure from that direction. Do you still support that statement?

Answer: There is no doubt in my mind that the limitations imposed by economic dependence restrict our political freedom to maneuver, increasing our exposure to outside pressure. This includes the issue of our remaining in Judaea, Samaria,, the Golan, and the Gaza District. But that does not mean that it is the United States' declared aim to step up that dependence. However, an inevitable outcome of that kind of dependence is a much increased exposure to outside pressure, and I say this at a time when — and I note this with pleasure — cooperation between ourselves and the United States is strengthening in light of the threats and dangers which face both our countries jointly. However, even though it might be spring, we still ought to reduce our dependence on the United States so as not to increase our vulnerability if and when winter comes.

Question: It was reported recently that you turned down a U.S. suggestion to visit the United States.

Answer: When I was asked by friendly sources in the U.S. Administration what my position is on the possiblity of visiting Washington now, I requested that the visit be postponed for a few months. I feel that the main front on which I should be active now, in my capacity as finance minister, is the Israeli economy. Only after the required policy measures have been put into practice will there be room for such a visit. I do not think that the way I feel on this will be interpreted incorrectly, because closer economic ties between Israel and our great friend, the United States, are of cardinal importance.

Question: The prime minister and two of his principal aides, the defense minister and yourself, Mr Minister, have been opposed to the Camp David accords. Is that still your position today?

Answer: As an Israeli citizen I felt then, and I believe now, that the degree of risk we shouldered in the Camp David accords was above and beyond anything we should have undertaken. I say this without for a moment making light of the importance attached to that period of calm reached by us in the wake of the accords.

Chilean Minister Visits, Meets Officials

TA261725 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Text] Chilean Foreign Relations Minister Miguel Schweitzer arrived in Israel a short time ago for a 4-day visit. The guest told our correspondeent Dan Eshel that he hoped his talks here would improve trade and cultural relations between the two countries. In the absence of the prime minister and defense minister from Israel [due to their visit in the United States], Minister Schweitzer will confer with Acting Foreign Minister Moshe Nisim. He will also meet with the president, the Knesset speaker and the deputy prime minister. Among other places, he will tour the Golan Heights and the Israel Aircraft Industries.

Ben-Me'ir Asks Nazi's Deportation

TA271841 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Israel has called on Chile to deport Nazi war criminal Walter Rauff. The Israeli request came today when Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir met with Chile's visiting Foreign Minister Miguel Schweitzer Walters in Jerusalem. David Essing reports:

[Begin Essing recording] Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir told his Chilean guest that Nazi war criminal Walter Rauff should be deported from Chile and brought to justice. Foreign Minister Schweitzer Walters replied that West Germany had requested Rauff's deportation, but this had been stymied by the statute of limitations. In any event, the Chilean official agreed to meet with Israel's attorney general to see if anything can now be done.

Foreign Minister Schweitzer Walters reviewed the Latin American scene. He sharply criticized Cuba for exporting its revolution to other countries. Schweitzer Walters warned: If El Salvador falls, other states would follow suit.

For his part, Yehuda Ben-Me'ir spoke of the growing Syrian threat backed by the Soviet Union. Most of today's lengthy

session at the Foreign Ministry centered on bilateral ties. Chile is keen on expanding its trade with Israel, but the major obstacle is a good means of transportation for Chile's bulk products: Wood, paper and nitrates. One idea raised was to store these products in warehouses in Israel. Officials are to continue examining how to increase this bilateral trade.

And, no less important from Chile's view, Israeli technology for desert development. Israel now sponsors 40 relevant courses and the two countries will likely sign an agreement in this field.

Finally, Chile's foreign minister invited his Israeli counterpart, Yitzhaq Shamir, and Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir to visit his country. [end recording]

Chilean Minister on Nazi

TA280730 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Chile's visiting foreign minister, Miguel Schweitzer Walters, says there is no chance his country would consider extraditing Nazi war criminal Walter Rauff. The Chilean official was speaking to reporters after a dinner given by Acting Foreign Minister Moshe Nisim in Jerusalem last night.

[Begin recording] [Walters] The only reason why the Walter Rauff case has been resuscitated, it's on a political basis, because they want to identify the present Chilean regime with the Nazi era, which has nothing to do; this is a case which was tried by the judiciary and never again brought up, except in the very recent years, so that's why I brought the issue and I questioned why this sudden Israeli interest in Walter Rauff and I am not so sure that it is an Israeli exclusively interest.

Otherwise, naturally, then the same intention that was put forward in the extradition case, in which Israelis were, naturally, represented in Chile and in which the Government of Israel also had its saying, but in a moderate way, naturally. Not with the particular interest that I find in this visit.

[Unidentified correspondent] So, summing it up, you don't see any chance of the case being reopened and a final extradition decision being made?

[Walters] No, impossible, impossible.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Nisim tonight expressed regret that Chile had transferred its embassy to Tel Aviv. Is there any possibility that your government might reconsider moving the embassy back to Jerusalem?

[Walters] Well, you know a diplomat cannot close any possibility, but it will have to be looked upon and studied. It is not just a very easy decision and it was difficult when taken and it has to be studied as everything, specially in a sensitive issue as this one. [end recording]

Settlement Leaders To Take Independent Action

TA281755 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Report by Shalom Oren — recorded]

[Text] The heads of the Jewish settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza have gone back on the promise they made to the prime minister and defense minister, on the eve of the latters' departure for Washington, that they would not adopt independent measures to guarantee order in Judaea and Samaria. According to the heads of the Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza Jewish settlements, the reality in the area proves that the provocations against vehicles and Jews in Judaea and Samaria have not only not ceased but have intensified. Evidence for this is the assassination attempt in Nabulus today, as well as the attack on two buses yesterday.

At 2100 tonight the representatives of all Judaea and Samaria settlements will meet at Joseph's Tomb in Nabulus to hear about the protest activities decided on in an emergency meeting in Ari'el this afternoon. The heads of the Jewish settlements say that as of tonight, they will begin ongoing activity which will stop only when calm prevails in Judaea and Samaria, and when the laws regarding lawbreakers are changed. The promise by the prime minister and defense minister, made last Friday, that the IDF and security forces would take action to restore calm to the region is not being kept, they say. Without a change in policy, Judaea and Samaria will apparently continue to be stormy. They believe, they say, that without independent activity on their part, the government will not be convinced to change its policy. The Judaea and Samaria people demand that the size and severity of the penalties be significantly increased, and that the families of stonethrowers be expelled across the Jordan River.

Minister on Riot Penalties

TA281927 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Justice Minister Moshe Nisim has said that heavier sentences should be imposed on rioters in Judaea and Samaria in order to put an end to this phenomenon. Minister Nisim told our correspondent Shalom Oren that there is no need to amend the law, and he might only issue an order to demand heavier sentences. Nisim went on to say that he will meet the defense minister in order to discuss keeping law and order in Judaea and Samaria. He will also look into the problem of the settlers self-defense. The council of settlements in Judaea and Samaria has decided on continuous action until the government changes the law regarding the rioters. The leaders of the settlements will meet tonight near Joseph's Tomb in Nabulus, where they will be told about the action and a timetable for it.

West Bank Unrest Anticipated

TA281004 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 28 Nov 83 p 1

[Report by David Richardson]

[Text] The IDF has beefed up its forces in the West Bank to meet

anticipated unrest tomorrow, the anniversary of the 1947 UN decision on the partition of Palestine, which has been a traditional day of protest in the area.

The additional forces are to be deployed in usual trouble spots such as the refugee camps that straddle main roads and the towns of Halhul and Nabulus. In addition, the army will mount lookout posts and use video and still cameras to record demonstrations to facilitate identification, arrest and trial of stone-throwers and inciters.

The new measures follow a series of meetings between leaders of West Bank settlements and the new OC Central Command Aluf (Major General) Amnon Shahaq, and a meeting the settlers held last Friday with prime Minister Shamir.

The settlers claim that the new methods would not have been adopted had it not been for their threats to demonstrate and if necessary, to mount their own security patrols. They charge that the rock-throwing is intolerable and that it harms efforts to bring more nonideological settlers into the area.

Two Israelis were slightly injured yesterday by rocks when buses in which they were travelling were attacked. Minor incidents were also recorded.

Peace Now Condemns Incident

TA281146 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] The Peace Now movement has condemned the attempt to assassinate the settler from Har Berakha, saying that such acts only contribute to inflaming spirits and widening the circle of violence. The movement has appealed to the defense establishment with a demand that the IDF alone be responsible for the security of all the inhabitants of the territories. The Peace Now movement also warns against the reactions of settlers who are now likely to take the law into their own hands, and it demands the cancellation of orders permitting the settlers to act beyond what is required for the immediate defense of their safety.

Nabulus Settlement Planned

TA290627 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Gush Emunim members in the settlements beyond the Green line have established a center of activity and protest near Joseph's Tomb in the heart of Nabulus. From this center, settlements in Judaea and Samaria will launch protests against the government's policy. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports:

[Begin Oren Recording] We will not leave Joseph's Tomb in the heart of Nabulus, at least until security is restored in Judaea and Samaria and until the law regarding lawbreakers in the territories is changed, leaders of the settlements declare. At the same time, they do not conceal their intention and desire to establish a Jewish settlement in the heart of Nabulus.

The protest center in Nabulus resembles the sit-in strike and protest which was staged at the military government building in Hebron a couple of months ago. Our presence in Nabulus is the answer to all those who want to throw us out of Nabulus, leaders of the settlements say. According to Gush Emunim leaders, protest activities against the government will be launched from Nabulus until the prime minister and the defense minister fulfill their promise to establish calm in the area. In any event, the leaders of the settlements hope that a Jewish settlement will remain in the heart of Nabulus, in addition to the Yeshiva which has been operating on the same site for the past 2 years. [end recording]

U.S. Sets Conditions To Discuss Ben-Porat Plan

TA271247 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 27 Nov 83, p 1

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] The United States will be prepared to discuss the Ben-Porat plan for the rehabilitation of the refugees, but only if it is made clear beyond any doubt that this is a voluntary program, devoid of any intention of enforcing it on the refugees. Furthermore, the program will also have to be acceptable to UNRWA, and will be implemented with the latter's cooperation. This was stated by U.S. sources to our correspondent. They made it clear that there was no truth to reports that the United States had agreed to finance the plan. Our correspondent's impression from the statements made by these sources was that the United States fears that, despite Ben-Porat's declarations that this is a purely voluntary program, the policy adopted in the camps at present creates a process of coercion which would compel the refugees to accept the plan.

'AL HAMISHMAR: Territories Gain in Importance

TA281725 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 28 Nov 83 p 3

[Commentary by Pinhas 'Inbari: "The Weakness of the Strong Arm"]

[Text] Two events which are not directly connected may well turn out to be important landmarks in political developments in Judaea and Samaria: All the activity prior to 'Arafat's pulling out of Tripoli, and the U.S. trip of Prime Minister Shamir and Defense Minister Arens.

Jerusalem has stressed those issues that are not linked to the Palestinian question, such as economic aid and strategic cooperation. However, signals have come from the United States to the effect that, despite the desire for this visit to succeed, the Palestinian issue nonetheless remains a very real controversial subject, and the United States has no intention of sitting idly on the sidelines, waiting for Israel to decide to cooperate.

The clearest signal of all was evident in Secretary of State Shultz's speech in Atlanta prior to President Herzog's arrival in Washington. Shultz made it clear that the Reagan plan is very much alive, and that the United States would work for its realization even in a presidential election year. He further stated

that the United States would work to improve the social, economic, and administrative welfare of the 1.3 million Palestinians in the territories.

This declaration does not have just socioeconomic significance. Its importance is political: After the Lebanese war, and especially after the battle in Tripoli between 'Arafat and the Syrian-backed PLO rebels, the importance of the territories held by Israel has increased considerably. The reasons for this are hinted at in the Atlanta speech. "I have said a great deal," Shultz said, about the human aspect of the Middle East conflict, but there is a further aspect. I am thinking of the Palestinian people. The Palestinians, first and foremost, fell victim to self-appointed leaders who suffered from the illusion of military options, and in their folly rejected the only road to a solution: direct negotiations. After it became clear to all that instead of the PLO's military path, it was the political path that was on the agenda, and since the PLO is not an organization elected by the Palestinians but rather a self-appointed body, the weight carried by the residents of the territories has gained in importance in the eyes of the policymakers in Washington.

Shultz did not say how the United States planned to help the residents of the territories, but a State Department delegation, headed by William Kirby, which visited Israel over a month ago, hinted at what he meant: The United States plans to extend direct economic assistance to the territories. In other words, this is a political step of the first magnitude. The territories will become more than mere occupied lands subject to administration by the occupying power. They will attain the status of a "near state," worthy of being included among the other countries receiving U.S. aid.

A final version of this new policy has apparently not been formulated as yet, and may not be submitted to Israel on the occasion of the Shamir and Arens visit. One obstacle is Israel's stand, contrary to this intention of the United States. The latter, as a superpower, has no intention of granting its funds underground. So long as Israel's support is not assured, this controversial issue will not be raised during the visit, which everyone devoutly hopes will prove a success. The United States must obtain Israel's consent if the various municipalities and public institutions in the territories are not to transgress the law. It is the United States' intention to use the aid for development programs and these, of course, cannot be implemented without the approval of the military government.

The cause of the residents of the territories is enhanced not only in U.S. eyes, but in those of the PLO as well. The post-Tripoli move must reflect a deep PLO involvement in the political process, otherwise the organization is finished indeed. Since the political process, according to the Reagan plan, focuses on the territories, it is important for the PLO to strengthen its political foothold there. During the days of the Tripoli crisis, the West Bank supported 'Arafat, and both he and his men boasted of that support, while not ignoring the fact that it was lukewarm at best, given the severity of the crisis. The territories have seen far stormier days over affairs that were far less important.

One of the objectives that will no doubt be voiced where 'Arafat's camp is concerned is that now, after the revolution, he does not have enough "soldiers" to justify his claim to represent all the Palestinians. And in fact, 'Arafat will have to make good this loss in manpower, caused by his having lost his hold on Lebanon. To make this up, he will have to deepen his roots in the territories, especially since that is where the real Palestine lies. Thus the residents of the territories will now be courted by the PLO as well as by the United States.

If Yasir 'Arafat decides to make Amman his headquarters, the high-level joint committee headed by King Husayn and 'Arafat — decided on following 'Arafat's rescue from the Beirut siege — is expected to be revived. Israel has forbidden the entry of any funds from this joint committee, and will prevent such money from being used for development projects. It will not be able to prevent funds from being channeled into political centers in order to intensify the PLO's political influence in Jordan.

This is the difference between the funds of the joint committee and the type of aid the United States wants to bring in. The United States is by no means turning a blind eye to the political advantages to be gained from economic aid, but to the United States, that is not the main thing. The sympathy of the residents of the territories is not as vital to the United States as it is to the PLO. The United States is anxious to create a favorable atmosphere in the territories, enabling its representatives to make an appearance in the joint Jordanian- Palestinian delegation which was mentioned about a year ago when Washington hoped that 'Arafat would be able to give Husayn the go-ahead for embarking upon political negotiations. That is also supposed to be in Israel's interest, of course, but the Defense Ministry decided that it was more important to pursue stone throwers than to encourage an atmosphere that would enable dignitaries in the territories to stand up for the political process without being considered traitors.

On the day Shamir and Arens left for such important talks in Washington, Israel radio reported the resumption of the strong-arm policy in the territories. A strong arm is in the interest of the settlers, but it keeps away the chances of reconciliation and understanding, and increases hostility. Now more than ever, the interests of the state and those of Gush Emunim are diametrically opposed.

Syria Held Responsible for POW's Well-Being

TA271713 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Israel has warned Syria that it regards Syria as responsible for the well-being of the Israeli prisoners held by it and by the terrorists under Syrian control. The Defense Ministry spokesman this evening stated that Israel hopes all the necessary measures are taken to watch out for our prisoners.

Earlier, correspondents in Tripoli were told by Jibril's organization, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine — General Command, that the two Israeli prisoners held by its men would be tried by a military court, and they might be executed. Nevertheless, the organization noted that it still hoped to carry out a prisoner exchange with Israel according to the list of demands it has submitted.

Red Cross Visits IDF Soldiers Held by Jibril

TA281513 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] The representatives of the International Red Cross [IRC] visited the two IDF captives held in the hands of Ahmad Jibril's organization the night before last. Our correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the IRC representatives reported that the health of the two Israeli captives is good. At the same time, one of Jibril's spokesmen says there is no truth to the previous announcement that his organization intends to courtmartial the two Israeli POW's, or that they are facing a death penalty. An announcement along these lines was made by another spokesman of the organization at a news conference in Tripoli. The denial was broadcast on Beirut radio in the afternoon and was also handed to the French news agency.

Lebanon To Expel 'Many' Released Palestinians

TA270636 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Lebanon says it was taken by complete surprise on the release of the Ansar camp detainees and has strongly protested to Israel for not having received prior information on this. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the Lebanese Government intends to expel many of the Palestinians who were released from Ansar and remained in Lebanon.

Lebanese Government officials in southern Lebanon said that those of the released who possess Lebanese identification cards will be allowed to remain in Lebanon. Similar permission will be given to Palestinians who arrived in Lebanon prior to 1948 but the Lebanese Army will take steps to locate the other released detainees and will grant them a temporary permit to remain in the south until the International Red Cross extends its protection to them and removes them from Lebanon. Our correspondent notes that several hundred of the detainees released from Ansar moved from southern Lebanon to the Beirut area.

Israel To Repair Latin American Aircraft

TA281125 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 28 Nov 83 p 2

[Report by Arye Egozi]

[Text] Israel Aircraft Industries are planning to expand their present activity in Latin America with regard to prolonging the "longevity" of relatively aging fighter planes.

Many Latin American countries operate with fighter planes that are somewhat dated, and are unable to acquire more modern planes because of the cost involved. These countries have expressed considerable interest in the proposals submitted by the Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] for improving such aircraft by fitting them with Israeli-made electronic systems.

Reference is mainly to systems aimed at improving the aircraft's navigational performance as well as its accuracy in launching bombs and missiles. The IAI has developed a number of such systems, which are considered the most advanced in the world.

According to an official IAI report, the company has submitted proposals to several foreign air forces for making additional modifications in their old planes, improving the operational performance of the aircraft by the addition of canards, similar to those mounted on the Kfir plane.

Discussions are now under way with a number of Latin American states, and it has been learned that the business transactions involved amount to several dozen millions of dollars. Most of the work can be carried out in the countries themselves, and only a part would have to be done in the IAI plants in Israel.

Galilee Arabs Reportedly Want To Join IDF

TA281305 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Recently the number of young Arabs from villages in western Galilee who want to join the ranks of the IDF has increased considerably, despite the fact that this duty is not encumbent upon them. The ITIM correspondent reports that most of the volunteers are Bedouin and the others are Christians. All of them say they feel that it is their right and duty to serve in the IDF. The heads of the Bedouin tribes in the north have appealed to the recruitment offices to help the volunteers to join. There will be a meeting on this matter tomorrow, 29 November, between several tribal heads and the commander of the Northern Command, Ori Or.

Peres Holds Talks With Mitterrand in Paris

For Jerusalem Television Service coverage of Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres's visit to France, including his talks with President Francois Mitterrand and subsequent interview, see the France section of the 29 November Western Europe *Daily Report and subsequent issues.*

OAU Delegation in Paris for Chad Settlement
PM251437 Paris LE MONDE in French 22 Nov 83 p 9

[Unattributed report: "OAU Mission to Paris To Settle the Chadian Conflict"]

[Text] An OAU delegation including in particular Mr Peter Onu, temporary secretary general of that organization, and Ethiopian Foreign Minister Goshu Wolde, had a 2-hour meeting in Paris Sunday, 20 November, with Mr Francis Gutmann, secretary general of the External Relations Ministry, in the absence of Mr Cheysson, who is touring Asia.

The French External Relations Ministry states that the delegation had a "detailed" conversation on subjects of common interest. But its main aim was to try togather the representatives of Mr Hissein Habre and Mr Goukouni Oueddei around a negotiating table. Indeed, the latter recently said he was in favor of a meeting with Ndjamena authorities. And at the Franco-African summit in Vittel in October Mr Hissein Habre had reaffirmed that he was prepared to have discussions with "all Chadians."

Before leaving Addis Ababa on Saturday 19 November Mr Wolde announced that he hoped to hold a "round-table meeting" in the Ethiopian capital next month with a view to reconciling the different Chadian factions. Mr Wolde also specified that he would have talks with Mr Hissein Habre "aimed at achieving a lasting peace and national reconciliation" in Chad.

The OAU delegation is due to visit Chad, Libya, and Nigeria. This mission is also to tackle the Western Sahara conflict, since the OAU wishes to take an initiative in that connection, according to Mr Wolde, who is to hand the leaders of the countries visited a message from Ethiopian head of state Mengistu Haile Mariam.

ALGERIA

Hungarian Trade Minister on 'Dynamic Cooperation'

PM251438 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 18 Nov p 12

[APS report: "A Developing Cooperation Process"]

[Text] Algiers — At the end of his visit to Algeria, where he attended the opening of the Hungarian Technical and Economic Exhibition in Algiers, Hungarian Foreign Trade Minister Peter Veress granted an interview to APS in which he stressed Algeria's place in his country's trade.

"We regard Algeria as one of our most stable partners, from both the political and economic standpoint," the Hungarian minister said before adding that bilateral economic relations have expanded during recent years. Mr Veress expressed satisfaction with the good relations which exist among representatives from both countries' economic enterprises and ministries.

Mr Veress added: "We are certain that the dynamic cooperation between our two countries will increase in coming years, despite the crisis which is raging in the world."

Referring to bilateral trade and the potential for imports from Algeria, the Hungarian minister noted that negotiations are continuing for the purchase of water-heaters, petrochemical products, incandescent lamps, dates, and hand tools. He explained that contracts have already been signed for the importation of cast iron, zinc, textiles, and shoes.

Mr Veress was scheduled to leave Algiers for Budapest early yesterday evening.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Message From India's Gandhi

LD280301 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has received a reply from Indira Gandhi, current chairman of the Nonaligned Movement. In her message, she expressed anxiety at the serious threat to peace in the eastern Mediterranean posed by the concentration of weapons, troops, and warships there [words indistinct].

She confirmed that the Zionist invasion of Lebanon has made the situation more dangerous, pointing out that she has contacted many world leaders to urge them to use their influence in order to achieve the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon, as the withdrawal of these forces will facilitate the departure of all remaining troops.

Indira Gandhi expressed satisfaction with and appreciation of the efforts made by the brother leader of the revolution for the freedom and unity of Lebanon, confirming that her country will always support the unity, sovereignty and nonaligned status of Lebanon.

Indira Gandhi ended her message by describing our struggle as directed against both Israeli aggression and the injustice and [word indistinct] which it commits, repeating that the cuurent situation in Lebanon will serve only the interests of the aggressors.

MAURITANIA

Haydala Addresses Morocco on Western Sahara

LD282207 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Our country celebrated the 23d anniversary of its national independence today. On this occasion, Lieutenant Colonel Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee of National Salvation and head of state, delivered an important speech to the nation.

On the subject of foreign policy, the head of state said: Our country is anxious to establish good relations with all nations that cherish peace, freedom, and justice in the world. I hope that the sister Kingdom of Morocco will agree to implement the OAU resolutions regarding the Western Sahara. He reaffirmed our country's conviction that a just solution will come not through force of arms, but through direct negotiations between the two parties concerned. He explained that Nouakchott will reconsider its stand vis-a-vis recognition of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic if no tangible progress is made by 31 December 1983 toward implementation of the resolution adopted by the 19th OAU summit.

The head of state asserted our country's unshakable support for the Palestinian people under the leadership of their legitimate representative, the PLO, against the Zionist occupiers and those who are plotting against the Palestinian cause and supporters of [word indistinct] Palestine resistance. He also renewed our support of the struggle being waged by the Namibian and Azanian [South African] peoples against racism.

Lieutenant Colonel Ould Haydala concluded by stressing that the national leadership is determined to achieve victory in the struggle against backwardness and [word indistinct].

MOROCCO

King Hassan Receives Equatorial Guinea President

LD260813 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Nov 83

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II received Mr Teodoro Obiang Ngueman Mbasogo, president of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, at the Royal Palace this afternoon.

Talks between his majesty the king and the president of Equatorial Guinea lasted nearly 1 hour. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Karim Lamrani, royal adviser Mr (Ahmed Ridha Guidira), and the minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, Mr M'hamed Boucetta.

Obiang Makes Statement, Departs

LD261308 Rabat MAP in English 1219 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Text] Rabat, Nov 26 (MAP) — Mr Teodoro Nguema Mbasogo, president of Equatorial Guinea has left here Saturday morning after a three day working visit during which he met with King Hassan II of Morocco.

In a statement to newsmen, Mr Nguema Mbasogo said that his visit aimed at "examining different issues relating to bilateral relations." He added that the countries' delegations met to discuss the diverse projects to be carried out in Equatorial Guinea with Morocco's assistance in accordance with last year's meeting of moneylender countries duing which Morocco accepted to provide this country with assistance particularly in the areas of agriculture and commerce.

The Equatorial-Guinea president was accompanied during his visit here by a delegation comprising the minister of state for foreign affairs, the minister to the presidency in charge of mines and hydrocarbons and the deputy-minister, secretary general of the presidency of the republic.

Tazi Receives U.S., USSR Envoys, Discuss Ties

LD281418 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Rabat, Nov (MAP) — Moroccan Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr Abdelhaq Tazi received the ambassador of the Soviet Union to Morocco, M. Yevgeniy Nersesov.

Talks focused on the bilateral realtions and the current international situation. The Soviet diplomat handed to Mr Tazi the text of the memorandum made public by Mr Yuriy Andropov, president of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and secretary general [as received]of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, relating the Soviet Union's stance regarding the deployment in Europe of American nuclear missiles and the decisions made by his country to face this situation.

On the other hand, the secretary of state received the ambassador of the United States to Morocco, Mr Joseph Verner Reed. The meeting dealt with relations between Morocco and the United States.

SUDAN

Foreign Minister Interviewed on Regional Problems

PM241613 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 25 Nov pp 51-53

[Interview with Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak by Raghidah Durgham in New York — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: The new laws were accompanied by an announcement of the release of some 16,000 Sudanese prisoners. Were there any political prisoners among them?

Answer: Some politicians have been released. This means that we are turning over a new leaf and giving everyone a second chance. If they return to their old ways, we will apply the law. That is why they have been released: To give them one last chance to reform.

Question: What percentage of this group was composed of political prisoners?

Answer: I do not know.

Question: Are there are any more political prisoners now?

Answer: No, there are none.

Question: Were the politicians who carried out the coup attempt in Sudan earlier this year among those released?

Answer: I do not know. Most of those released are common criminals. We decided to give them a last chance before enforcing the Shari'a law against them.

Question: Let us move to the question of your relations with Libya. Is there any room — or are any efforts underway to improve these relations?

Answer: Relations with Libya are extremely bad, but we do not believe that any set of relations, particularly with an Arab country, can be bad forever. We would like to have good relations. The moment Libya stops its adventures against Sudan, relations will return to normal.

Question: Questions were raised when the United States sent the AWACS to Sudan. Some people questioned the timing of that move.

Answer: It is not a question of timing. There have been continuous Libyan operations in Sudan since relations began to deteriorate. These operations are now underway in Western and Southern Sudan, and in other areas as well. The AWACS came to Sudan at our request, because Libya was planning some operations in conjunction with its actions in Chad. The important target of the Chadian operations was Sudan.

Question: What do you mean?

Answer: The first thing Libya did when it entered Chad was build airfields along the Sudanese border. It also launched several military operations and bombed a great many places in Western Sudan. Thus, Sudan was a target of that operation. Chad is very important to Sudan because it is a neighboring country. Instability in Chad directly affects us. Furthermore, we believe in nonintervention in the affairs of other states.

Question: What has become of the consultations being held under the auspices of the OAU between Chad and its neighbors with the aim of solving the Chadian problem?

Answer: The problem of Chad will never be solved unless Libya stops interfering in its internal affairs. Only then, we believe, will the OAU be able to press the people of Chad to seek national reconciliation.

Question: How do you view the current French role in Chad?

Answer: We believe that the French role has thus far been positive. The French intervened at the request of Chad's legitimate government. At least the French have stopped the fighting and given the OAU an opportunity to step in and try to promote national reconciliation.

Question: What has the OAU achieved thus far?

Answer: Its efforts are continuing, but they have not yet had any results. Regrettably, there are varying trends in these efforts. We want serious efforts to promote stability in Chad, without either third party intervention or deference to anyone.

Question: What about your relations with Ethiopia, particularly now that Ethiopia is chairman of the OAU?

Answer: Our relations with Ethiopia are not bad. They are based on noninterference in the affairs of others. Our relations, in fact, are good, but there are some problems which have been caused by a third party. We know the views of the Ethiopians, however, and we talk and negotiate with them. I believe that we will achieve good results.

Question: What do you mean by third party?

Answer: Libya, surely.

Question: Ethiopia, it has been said, now takes into consideration the fact that it chairs the OAU. Accordingly, it keeps some distance between itself and Libya so as not to undermine its OAU position.

Answer: No, Libya is doing everything in its power to ensure that Ethiopia's chairmanship of the OAU is a failure, but Ethiopia is well aware of the situation and is very serious in its efforts to preserve OAU unity.

Question: However, Libyan-Ethiopian relations are known to have been good, and there are friendship and cooperation agreements between them such as the tripartite agreement which also includes the PDRY. Has there been any change in these relations since Ethiopia assumed the OAU chairmanship?

Answer: I do not know what is happening in the context of that tripartite agreement, but we are very satisfied with Sudanese-Ethiopian relations despite that agreement.

Question: Minister, you are coming under severe criticism over Sudan's facilities to the United States at a time when the United States is not giving Sudan as much aid as was expected of it, especially economic aid.

Answer: I would first like to know what facilities you are talking about.

Question: The military facilities: for example, the AWACS and the joint military exercises.

Answer: We asked for the AWACS. With regard to the joint exercises, they did not begin with the United States. We have been holding exercises annually or every few years with Britain for a long time. Then we began holding exercises with the United States, but they are not the first of their kind nor will they be the last. We benefit from these exercises in training our Army. We say so openly and we declare that these exercises will not be the last. We hope to find more states with which to hold beneficial exercises.

Question: What is the United States doing for Sudan?

Answer: It is providing some financial and technical aid. We are grateful to anyone who gives Sudan anything, regardless of how much. The United States is helping, the EEC is helping, and others are helping. We do not say that the aid is great or little. We just thank them for what they offer.

Question: Egypt is beginning to improve its relations with the Soviet Union. What about Sudan? Does it have any similar plans?

Answer: We in Sudan, incidentally, believe in the need for balanced relations with the two superpowers. We have frequently tried to improve our relations with the Soviet Union, but something has always happened to hamper this. We went a long way the last time; however, then Afghanistan was invaded and, when we opposed the invasion, the talks ended.

Question: That was 4 years ago. What about now?

Answer: We have no objection to improving our relations with any state. If you notice, although our relations with the Soviet Union are bad, they are not bad on ideological grounds. We have relations with many states with the same ideology as the Soviet Union. They are good, in fact, excellent relations. We hope that our relations will improve in the near future, because the Soviet Union is a superpower.

Question: Are any real efforts being made to improve relations with the Soviet Union?

Answer: We should not talk about these efforts now but, God willing, they will be crowned with success.

Question: Let us now talk about the resumption of diplomatic relations between certain African states, such as Zaire and Liberia, and Israel. As an Arab and African state, what are you doing about that?

Answer: In the past, when the Arab states sensed that some African states were trying to restore relations with Israel, Sudan moved to persuade a number of African states to abandon the idea. It managed to dissuade three states. Now the states you mentioned have restored their relations with Israel, but before blaming the African states we should blame ourselves, the Arabs. The Arab world is divided and torn by infighting. Even in the OAU the Arabs are polarizing the African states against one another. In other words, the reasons which prompted the African states to support the Arabs no longer exist because the Arab world is itself fragmented and, unless it remedies this situation, the rest of the African states will restore relations with Israel. Before blaming the African states we should blame ourselves, and we should pull ourselves together and stand united so that

the African states may support us. Even the European states which were once enthusiastic about the Arab states have begun to lose their enthusiasm because of this disunity and fragmentation.

Question: Has African support for the PLO diminished as a result of the dissident movement within it and the current Syrian-Palestinian dispute?

Answer: Of course that situation has affected not only the African states and their polices but also the European states and their policies. These are all interrelated problems. The African now asks himself: Whom am I supposed to support? If he supports one side the other side will attack him. That is a real problem.

Mirghani Receives Message From Egypt's 'Ali
JN281733 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Nov (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani received Assistant Egyptian Foreign Minister Salah Basyuni this morning. The Egyptian ambassador to Khartoum, Ahmad 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif, was also present at the meeting.

Basyuni said that he brought Muhammad Mirghani a message from Hasan 'Ali, Egyptian deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs. He added that the message falls within the framework of diplomatic coordination and cooperation between Sudan and Egypt on current Arab and African issues.

Basyuni arrived in Khartoum yesterday on a 1-day visit to Sudan.

Envoy To Deliver Message to Chad's Habre
EA271527 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Mr 'Umar Muhammad Yasin, roving ambassador attached to the president's office, leaves today for Ndjamena with a message from President of the Republic Ja'far Muhammad Numayri to Chadian President Hissein Habre as part of the president's political initiative. The roving ambassador's visit to Chad will last 2 days.

ETHIOPIA

Voice of Broad Masses Reports TPLF Operations

EA242159 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] Units of the Tigre People's Liberation Front [TPLF] attacked an enemy force moving from Adi Sheho and Alaji toward (Ezraalbo). During the fighting the enemy suffered 32 dead and 40 wounded and retreated to base. In another development, units of the TPLF killed 10 enemy soldiers and wounded 8 others, while 4 surrendered to the TPLF on attacks carried out in (Taber), in the environs of Dibdib, Adi Arkay, and Mokhoni.

Further TPLF Gains

EA281947 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Continuing its drive to advance its military struggle into Gonder administrative region, the heroic Tigre People's Revolution Front [TPLF] recorded important victories last week against the enemy forces. On 19 November fighters of the TPLF destroyed a company of the 7th Division of the 115 Brigade of the enemy stationed in the town of (Sanjaa), 60 km from Gonder and gained control of the town. The TPLF also attacked enemy reinforcements from Gonder, inflicting heavy casualties and forcing their retreat to Gonder. The people of (Arnachu) also inflicted additional heavy losses on the reinforcements by laying ambushes at various points.

During fighting on 20 November at [name indistinct] between 0600-2300, 63 enemy soldiers were killed, 45 wounded, and 46 captured. In addition, 70 rifles, 6 Bren guns, 1 82-mm RPG7, 1 pistol, and 2 PRC-77 communications radios were captured, while 5 vehicles were destroyed. On the following day, 21 November, the brave TPLF fighters destroyed an enemy camp in the town of Dabat in Wegera Province and gained control of the town for 2 days. During the fighting 150 Dergue soldiers were wounded or killed, while 20 Dergue soldiers, 200 rifles, 7 pistols, 7 Bren guns, 1 multiple anti-aircraft missile launcher and other useful material were captured, and 5 vehicles were destroyed. On the same day TPLF fighters gained contol of two small [unnamed] towns between Dabat and Gonder and attacked reinforcements sent from Debarek. During the fighting TPLF fighters killed 19 enemy soldiers, wounded 24 and captured 1. They also captured seven rifles, one pistol, and two Bren guns.

KENYA

Government Statement Reiterates Support for PLO

EA282302 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] The Kenya Government today issued a statement coinciding with the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people to be observed throughout the world tomorrow, 29 November. A Foreign Affairs Ministry statement released today said Kenya actively supports the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, sovereignty, and a state of their own in the Middle East. Kenya, the statement added, recognizes the PLO as the sole and authentic representative of the Palestinian people. On this occasion, Kenya therefore reiterates its well known position that no just and lasting peace can be achieved in the Middle East until the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people are fully recognized, respected, and restored.

SOMALIA

Planning Minister Departs for Bucharest Talks

EA281911 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Challe Brigadier General Ahmed Suleiman Abdulle, member of the Political Committee of the SRSP Central Committee and national planning mininster, left yesterday on an official visit to Bucharest, Romania at the head of a delegation. In an interview with a SONNA reporter at the airport he said his visit aims at increasing the development of economic cooperation between Somalia and Romania, a subject on which both sides hold talks once every 6 months. The minister disclosed that he would discuss with the Romanian Government the implementation of joint economic projects, particularly in the agricultural, livestock, and fishery development sectors. With regard to the development of cooperation between the two countries since the meeting between the two leaders, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre and Nicolae Ceausescu, in Mogadishu he noted that cooperation has strengthened and that joint development projects are being implemented smoothly in various regions of the Somali Democratic Republic.

SNM Central Committee Meets, Appoints Members

EA232325 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 23 Nov 83

[All names as heard]

[Text] The third meeting of the Central Committee of the Somali National Movement [SNM] wing of the Somali opposition forces, appointed members to several sections of its agencies and named the movement's Central Committee. The meeting formed four committees within the Central Committee. They are the Economic Committee, chaired by Hasan Dan Wadadiye; the Information, Propaganda, and Publications Committee, chaired by Ahmad Ismail Dukhsi; the Defense Committee, chaired by Shaykh Muhammad Haji Ibrahim, known as Haji Yarow; and the Political Committee, chaired by Abdullahi Askar Barkhat. At its third meeting, the SNM Central Committee also named the heads of its sections. The Economic Section: Said Shukri Husayn; the Information, Propaganda, and Publications Section: Abdi Yusuf Duale; Radio Halgan, which comes under the umbrella of the Information Section: Muhammad Abdi Ismail and [name indistinct]; the Political Section: Husayn Muhammad Haji Umar, known as Husayn Hanan; the Liberation Forces Section: Muhammad Hashi and [names indistinct]; the General Administration Section: Kule and others whom we will announce at a later date.

SNM Session Concludes; Press Statement Issued

EA260001 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 25 Nov 83

[Text] A press statement released by the Somali National Movement [SNM] wing of the Somali opposition forces vehemently condemns and at the same time resolves to confront the treacherous plots by imperialism and its intervention, which has spread to the Horn of Africa and other parts of the world. The press statement was released by the SNM following its recent third ordinary session of the organization 10-17 November and calls on the general public of Somalia, Somali opposition forces, SNM fighters and their supporters, and friendly countries to redouble their efforts to hasten the toppling of the fascist regime of Siad Barre and at the same time to fully support the armed struggle of the SNM. The press statement fully supports the nationalist independence struggles of the PLO, ANC, SWAPO, and the National Liberation Front of the Lebanese people. The press statement vehemently condemns imperialist intervention in the internal affairs of Lebanon and Chad.

DFSS Claims Defections From Barre Regime

EA232318 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Units from the 9th General Aynanshe Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] wing of the Somali opposition forces, blew up a military vehicle belonging to the loyalist troops of dictator Siad Barre. The vehicle, type LG [as heard] made in Germany, was blown up at the beginning of this week in the Ghel Gudut region of central Somalia. Reports reaching us from the 9th General Aynanshe Division say several Somali intellectuals have defected to the DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces. The defectors include Dr (Bashir Ali Mudey), who was a doctor with the Somali Ministry of Health, and (Ahmad Elmi Farah), who was working with a medical agency known as (Afimad).

Radio Halgan: Civilians Confront Government Troops

EA282316 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Somali civilians in Lugh district of Bai region and its [word indistinct] in southern Somalia are reported to be confronting troops loyal to Barre. In renewed fighting in Lugh and its surroundings between civilians and members of the 16th Battalion and police, 16 people have been injured and 1 policeman killed. The commander of the Air Defense Force in Berbera, Lieutenant Colonel Musa Hasan, is reported to have been severely injured after he was run down by a vehicle. The report says the incident occurred when civilians intending to mark the death anniversary of Shaykh Isahaq were involved in a clash with officers of the Barre regime. The report says that as a result nearly 70 people were imprisoned.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Ivorian President Foils Bokassa Plan To Return

AB281550 Paris AFP in English 1543 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Paris, Nov 28 (AFP) — Jean-Bedel Bokassa, former self-styled emperor of the Central African Republic, confirmed today that a plan to fly him back to his country at the weekend was foiled by Ivory Coast President Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

Mr Bokassa, who has been living in the Ivory Coast capital of Abidjan since he was overthrown by French troops in 1979, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE in a telephone interview that a plane had arrived from Paris Saturday with his lawyers and a number of French journalists on board. He said the plane was due to fly to Bangui via "a capital which I will not name," arriving Sunday.

"Crowds of people were waiting to welcome me at the airport," the former emperor went on. "But as soon as President Houphouet-Boigny heard that the plane was going to take me back to my country, he sent a vehicle with an Army escort to take me to his private residence at Cocody." There the president told him he would never leave Ivory Coast, Mr Bokassa claimed.

He said two battalions of the Ivory Coast Army were posted outside his home until Sunday evening and the aircraft was forced to take off without him. Mr Bokassa alleged President Houphouet-Boigny had also refused to allow him to go abroad for medical treatment.

"I have been under house arrest for over four years," he said. "I receive nothing from the Ivorian state and I have 15 children to support. A short while ago I set up a small manufacturing business, producing knitwear and clothing, but now I am not even allowed to do that."

He pointed out that former Nigerian Army Colonel Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu, the leader of the unsuccessful "Biafra" secession, had been allowed to return home last year after spending 13 years in exile in Ivory Coast. Former Nigerian Head of State Yakubu Gowon, who has lived in Britain since being overthrown in 1975, was also being allowed home for a visit. "Gowon can do it, but not me," Mr Bokassa said. "I am a prisoner. I don't understand."

The former emperor said that immediately after their meeting Saturday, President Houphouet-Boigny had telephoned French President Francois Mitterrand's adviser on African affairs, Guy Penne, and asked him to contact Central African President Andre Kolingba, calling on him to arrest Mr Bokassa if he managed to get to Bangui.

Questioned about his relationship with France, Mr Bokassa, who has unsuccessfully claimed for French nationality, said the French Government was "not implicated at all." He added: "I once wrote to President Francois Mitterrand and he replied that my case was nothing to do with him. I have always had good relations with the current French Government."

Mr Bokassa is in no doubt that he would be warmly welcomed in his homeland, which is facing severe financial difficulties. He pointed out that he personally had made President Kolingba a general. The man behind the bid to fly the ex-emperor to Bangui was Frenchman Roger Delpey, who staged another abortive attempt to repatriate him on October 15 and and has written a book in his defense.

Mr Bokassa was ousted after reports that some 100 children aged eight to 16 had been arrested and killed, some of them by the ex-emperor personally. Mr Delpey also believes the Central African people would welcome their former leader and claims to have the support of some of the French authorities.

CHAD

Bardai Radio Denies Defection of Troops to FAN

AB281045 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] The worsening military situation in southern Chad is worrying the Ndjamena clique a great deal. In this regard, the vindictive FAN clique has told one of the crudest lies to dispel worries and improve its image abroad. In fact, the FAN spokesman has just announced the defection of National Liberation Army troops to the FAN. Contrary to the scenario — already a classic with the FAN — which demonstrates a certain failure in the Chadian political life, the southern part of the country remains a battlefield for the revolutionary forces opposed to the FAN terrorist horde. Actually, the defectors announced by the Ndjamena clique are only the dissidents who have been operating in the south and who fled to seek refuge in Ndjamena in view of the increasing military activities in the south. Concerning the mission to the south led by traitor Djidingar Dono Ngardoum [minister of agriculture and rural development], which visited (?Bourar), its only concern was to bribe the canton chiefs in preparation for future elections in Chad.

ZAIRE

Mobutu Refuses Comment on Possible Oil Deposits

AB281902 Paris AFP in English 1821 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Kinshasa, Nov 18 (AFP) — Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko has refused to comment on rumours circulating in business circles here that large deposits of oil have been discovered off the coast of Zaire. "I have been told nothing officially," Field Marshal Mobutu said in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. "I am waiting to hear about the exploration going on at the moment."

"Anyway, I would not get carried away if it turned out to be true," he added. "We would still concentrate on developing our country's agriculture." The president pointed out that Zaire's agricultural development programme had been drawn up jointly with the International Monetary Fund.

Zaire is Africa's ninth largest oil producer and has been exploiting offshore oilfields in the Atlantic since 1975. Last year it produced over a million tonnes of hydrocarbons and production for the first nine months of 1983 has reached 945,447 tonnes.

Communique on Joint Canadian Commission Meeting
AB251252 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0955 GMT 25 Nov 83

[Joint communique issued in Kinshasa on 23 November following the second session of the Zairian-Canadian Joint Commission of Cooperation]

[Text] Kinshasa, 23 Nov (AZAP) — In conformity with the letter and spirit of the cooperation understanding between the Executive Council of the Republic of Zaire and the Canadian Government, citizen Lengema Dulia Yubasa Makanga, secretary of state for international cooperation in the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and Senator Jacques Hebert presided over the second session of the Zairian-Canadian Joint Commission in Kinshasa 21-23 November 1983.

During the deliberations, which were marked by frankness and cordiality, the Zairian and Canadian representatives expressed their determination to pull efforts together in order to expand and develop further the excellent relations already existing between Zaire and Canada both at the bilateral and multilateral levels. During the deliberations, the program of cooperation and cultural and commercial relations were at the center of the discussions.

Concerning the program of cooperation, the two sides first took stock of the progress on the projects under way, especially in the priority sectors of rural development and forestry. The Canadian delegation accepted a certain number of new requests made by the Zairian delegates and agreed to take the other requests into consideration within the framework of the program of cooperation to be drafted for the next 5 years.

Concerning cultural relations, the two sides expressed their satisfaction with the establishment of the Canadian-Zairian Cultural Association [ACCZ] and with its dynamism, which has been seen in its concrete achievements. The various initiatives of the ACCZ will certainly promote Canadian culture in Zaire as well as Zairian culture in Canada, thus contributing to bringing the two peoples closer.

With regard to commercial relations, the two sides acknowledged the need to develop them. In this connection they made a list of a number of measures which if implemented could contribute to diversifying and developing the commercial and economic relations between Zaire and Canada.

In view of these results, the Zairian delegation expressed its satisfaction with Canada's commitment to continued support to the Executive Council in its efforts toward social and economic development. In this regard, the leaders of the two delegations signed at the closing session two agreements on cooperation, namely the agreement on [words indistinct] for veterinary products, and the agreement extending the action of the committee of research into developmental problems. Furthermore, to demonstrate the active participation of the Canadian private sector in Zaire's development, Luc Benoit, representative of the Canadian Tecsult Company, and citizen Thiongo Tshibinkubula wa Tumba, general president of the Zairian Water and Power Distribution Administration, who were both at the session, signed an agreement on a water supply project.

During his stay in Zaire, Senator Jacques Hebert was received by MPR founding President Mobutu Sese Seko. The distinguished Canadian guest also held talks with citizen Nzondomyo Ajkpe Lingo, president of the Legislative Council; citizen Kengo wa Dondo, the first state commissioner; citizen Umba di Lutete, the state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation; citizen Nyembo Shabani, the state commissioner for agriculture and rural development; citizen Pay-Pay wa Syakasige, the state commissioner for economy, industry, and foreign trade; citizen Ndjoli Balanga, the state commissioner for environment, preservation of nature, and tourism; citizen Bendje Demodetdo Yoko, secretary of state for mines and energy; and citizen Kabaidi, the mayor of Kinshasa.

The various talks touched on Zaire's economic situation and on issues of world and regional political developments. Also, Senator Hebert made a visit to Nioki in the Bandundu region where the forestry company, Forrescom, is based. [Passage indistinct]

Entente Council Heads Meet in Yamoussoukro

AB280955 Paris AFP in English 0926 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Abidjan, Nov 28 (AFP) — The five heads of state of the West African Entente Council, which groups Benin, Ivory Coast, Niger, Togo, and Upper Volta, were meeting today in the new Ivory Coast capital of Yamoussoukro. The summit, to be chaired by President Mathieu Kerekou of Benin, was preceded yesterday by a meeting of foreign ministers of the council, the oldest sub-regional cooperation body in Africa. Official sources said the ministerial meeting had examined progress in implementing decisions of the council's last four summits, notably the objectives of mutual assistance funds. No agenda has been published for today's meeting. The last Entente summit, at Lome at the beginning of this year, made some 1.75 million dollars available to help citizens of member countries who had been expelled in Nigeria's drive against illegal immigrants.

GHANA

Cuban Technical Experts Arrive in Accra

AB282045 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] A group of 24 Cuban technical experts arrived in Accra this afternoon on a special Aeroflot flight from Havana. They are here to give technical assistance in various projects signed under the Ghana-Cuba joint commission for cooperation. They consist of eight medical doctors, three sports specialists, two statistic and planning experts, nine agricultural experts, one representative from the state committee for economic cooperation, and one adviser on public health. They were accompanied by two representatives from the Committee for the Defense of the Revolution in Cuba, who are here at the invitation of the National Defense Council.

Aryee Calls on USSR 'To Exercise Restraint'

AB270750 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] The secretary for information, Ms Joyce Aryee, has observed that Third World countries have equal rights to the use of technology to their advantage. She was speaking at the biannual delegates' congress of the Ghana-USSR Friendship Society in Accra. She said Third World countries also have the right to refuse to be threatened by the aggressive activities of the superpowers. Ms Joyce Aryee therefore called on Third World countries to take steps to stop an imminent nuclear war and ensure world peace. She said Third World countries should not sit down unconcerned to the threat of a nuclear war, as it knows no boundaries. The secretary for information called on the superpowers to heed the call of the world's 500 million hungry as the number is bound to double by the end of the decade. She called on the Soviet Union to exercise restraint and work toward the reconvening of the arms limitation talks in Geneva. The Soviet ambassador, Mr Anatoliy Ivantsov, said it is the aim of his country to deliver mankind from the threat of a nuclear war.

GUINEA

Equatorial Guinea President Departs After Visit

AB281305 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, the Equatorial Guinean head of state, left Conakry yesterday at 1300 following a 24-hour visit to our capital. President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo's visit fell within the framework of efforts to strengthen the relations of friendship and cooperation existing between our country and Equatorial Guinea. During the visit the Equatorial Guinean head of state had a private meeting with our head of state, President Ahmed Sekou Toure. Their talks touched both on bilateral relations and on African and world issues.

GUINEA-BISSAU

AFP Interviews General Joao Bernardo Vieira

AB252045 Paris AFP in French 1354 GMT 25 Nov 83

[Text] Bissau, 25 November (AFP) — General Joao Bernado Vieira has expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the recent donors' conference of states and international organizations held in Lisbon to examine financial aid necessary for the Guinea-Bissau economic stabilization program. He, however, expressed surprise at the reticence shown in Lisbon, especially by the French representatives. "They find that we are not moving fast enough in the application of the necessary stabilization measures," he told AFP. "But we have already made important decisions to introduce some sanity into the economy and to reorganize internal trade," through some form of liberalization, he added. The Guinea-Bissau head of state said he was surprised at France's attitude all the more so because "relations between our two countries are very very good," he said. He stressed that France had increased its aid considerably to Guinea-Bissau in the economic and military spheres.

"Through the mediation of the Bureau of Geological and Mineral Research, France is participating in very promising research for phosphate beds. In the military sphere, it provides us with logistic material, vehicles, transmission, and health equipment, which are very precious to us."

"Finally," President Vieira recalled, "Renault experts have carried out studies with the view to creating a system of urban transportation which we lack. Besides, the minister of transport will go to Paris in December to examine the financing of this system." With regard to the Cabinet reshuffle these last few months, President Vieira asserted that it does not have any political significance, merely economic. "The ministers who were removed (fisheries, finance, and foreign affairs) were found guilty of embezzlement of funds during their tenure of office. They were my friends, my former comrades in arms. I am very sad about it,but I could definitely not protect them. They must be tried by the tribunal for their crimes."

The president explained that the minister of fisheries, Flavio Proenca, sold fishing licenses to foreign shipowners who paid

their money into a bank in Senegal. With regard to the former minister of foreign affairs, Samba Lamine Mane, when he was minister of natural resources, he drew up false payrolls and regularly received salaries from the Mining Research Organization in Dakar.

President Vieira also confirmed elections would be held soon in Guinea-Bissau, but not before the early months of next year. The People's National Assembly, which will be elected, will entail the dissappearance of [words indistinct] November 1980, which led to the destitution of President Luiz Cabral and the suspension of the parliament. Meanwhile, all decisions are made by the Council of the Revolution, the supreme organ of the country, General Vieira said. He is the chairman of the council. "I did not want to be the chairman," he said, "but as I was nominated, I must assume my responsibilities. Anyway, it is the Council of the Revolution and the party (the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde — PAIGC) that makes decisions." To this end, the president refuses to admit that any pro-West faction within the party has more influence that some other factions that support socialist countries.

The president also expressed satisfaction over Guinea-Bissau's excellent relations with its neighboring countries, Guinea-Conakry and Senegal. The forthcoming visit of Senegalese President Abdou Diouf to Bissau on 2 December will be for us an opportunity to examine problems — economic problems in particular — facing our subregion and more generally the African Continent. We agree on practically all the issues, although we hold different views on the Western Sahara issue, as Senegal does not recognize, as we do, the SDAR." Concerning relations with Cape Verde, which were practically broken at the overthrow of President Luiz Cabral in November 1980, General Vieira believes that they have become satisfactory. However, he reaffirmed that it is out of the question to change the abbreviation of PAIGC, as Cape Verde wishes. Cape Verde requested for the dropping of the letter C (which stands for Cape Verde). "We fought for the liberation of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde. The PAIGC is part of the military and political history. There is nothing to change," he said.

LIBERIA

Officer Arrested for Plot; Quiwonkpa Still Missing

AB281630 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] The logistical manager of the Barclay Training Center in Monrovia, Colonel John Noah, has been arrested by the joint security force. Col Noah is presently being detained at the Port Stockade in Monrovia. According to informed sources, Col Noah was reportedly arrested in the Yekepa area in Nimba County while attempting to escape from the country. Over the weekend a government statement gave 48 hours to all those being implicated in the alleged plot to overthrow the People's Redemption Council Government to give themselves in.

The announcement was made by Commander in Chief Dr Samuel Doe last Monday. Since the weekend announcement, former Armed Forces Commander General Thomas Quiwonkpa and former Nimba County Superintendent Brigadier General Joseph Fambalo's whereabouts are still unknown.

NIGER

Goverment Denies GUNT Charges of Attack Plans

AB281655 Paris AFP in French 1622 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Niamey, 28 November (AFP) — In a communique issued on Monday, the Niger Government formally denied allegations made by Goukouni Oueddei's GUNT radio, according to which an armored column of the Ndjamena government is crossing Niger to attack the GUNT forces from behind. According to this information broadcast from Bardai in northern Chad by the GUNT, monitored in Lome and retransmitted by an AFP release, an equipped column comprising, in particular, land-air missile-carrying vehicles left Ndjamena on 17 November to attack the town of Zouar occupied by Mr Goukouni's forces and has crossed Niger to attack the GUNT forces from behind.

The Niger authorities asserted that "the territory of Niger has never been used in any instance for foreign military operations and will never be used for such operations, much less for fueling a crisis which is painfully dividing the brother Chadian people." "Niger can only hope and wish that peace and stability will be definitely restored to Chad," the communique went on to say. To this end, the communique said Niger intends pursuing this objective "while scrupulously respecting a principle that is dear to it, that is non-interference in the internal affairs of states."

NIGERIA

STATESMAN Denounces Cameroonian 'Provocations'

AB290940 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The *NIGERIAN STATESMAN* views with dismay and seriousness the latest report that Cameroon gendarmes have again made incursions into the Nigerian territory and taken over some villages in the Cross River State, recalling with pains that in the recent past thousands of Nigerian villagers around the Ikang area of the Cross River State had fled their border home because of harassment by Cameroon gendarmes. In the view of the *STATESMAN*, Nigeria has had enough of these insults and provocations from Cameroon and other neighboring countries, contending that she should use all her powers at her disposal to stop this ugly situation once and for all.

TOGO

Eyadema Receives Envoy From PLO's 'Arafat

AB281040 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] The head of state received at his private residence yesterday in Lome-Deux, Salman (al-Arfi), an emissary from PLO

leader Yasir 'Arafat. The envoy, who is the head of a PLO department for Africa and Latin America, delivered a message from the PLO leader to President Eyadema. After the audience, Yasir 'Arafat's emissary told the press that he was in Togo to inform and receive advice from the great wise man of Africa, General Gnassingbe Eyadema. Asked about the current difficulties now facing the PLO, especially dissidence within the Fatah, Mr Salman said that this is an interference by Syria and Libya, who are using some traitors as a cover-up. But despite this, loyalists continue to fight fiercely for the final victory, he said. Mr Salman warmly thanked President Eyadema, a great supporter of the Palestinian cause. He also thanked the Togolese people for their support for the Palestinian cause.

UPPER VOLTA

Cuban, Ghanaian Envoys Received, Speak

AB261215 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Four new ambassadors yesterday afternoon presented their letters of credence to Comrade Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Revolutionary Council [CNR]. The ceremony took place at Bonbore in the province of Ganzourgou. The new envoys are Lucien Tonoukoin from the People's Republic of Benin; Eduardo Barbin Martin from Cuba; Ahmed Ferhat Ber Ounes from Algeria, and William (?Dowuona) from Ghana. When presenting his letters of credence, the Cuban ambassador declared:

[Begin Martin recording in Spanish fading into French translation] Comrade Thomas Sankara, chairman of the CNR, head of state, I have the honor of presenting to you the letters accrediting me as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Cuba to the government and the revolutionary people of the sister Republic of Upper Volta. I am convinced that in contributing to the development and strengthening of friendly tiesof cooperation, we are contributing to achieving the common aspirations of our countries for peace, political and economic independence, and social justice. Comrade president, we are aware of the relentless efforts made by the people and government of the sister country to free themselves from centuries of colonial and neocolonial domination and exploitation, and economic, political, and social dependence. We also laud the support given by the revolutionary Government in Upper Volta to the oppressed people in the world in their just struggle for their national liberation and also to free themselves from the yoke of colonialism, neocolonialism, imperialism, Zionism, and apartheid.

Comrade president, I am deeply convinced that during my stay here I could count on the collaboration and the understanding of the government that you head. While conveying the greetings of the people and Government of Cuba, I would like to express the wishes of Fidel Castro Ruz, chairman of the Councils of State and Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, for your personal good health and happiness and for the prosperity of your country and your government. The fatherland or death. We shall overcome. [end recording]

The last envoy to be received by the CNR chairman was the Ghanaian diplomat. [Begin (?Dowuona) recording in French] I am deeply aware of the enormous task that I have been assigned. We all know that our countries currently face monumental difficulties. We face threats and subversion from within the population and at our borders. Consequently, the revolutions in Ghana and Upper Volta have agreed to come together and rediscover what President Kwame Nkrumah always preached: It is only when we come together, when we unite, when we merge, that we can fight imperialism. This is what we are trying to do now. This period of our special relations constitutes the new ties that we are endeavoring to set up to enable our two revolutions to succeed. These two revolutions are in fact one and the same revolution. Thanks to the relations existing between our two peoples, our border is no longer considered as a border. It is simply an administrative demarcation between two territories of the same people. We are divided by official languages, monetary zones,which are nothing but a manifestation of foreign domination, the administrative set-up, and artificial barriers. All these are to the benefit of an imperialist desire for domination and division. If we do not rid ourselves of these, we will be like others; we will make beautiful revolutions but we will remain where we are. But we have the opportunity in the persons of comrade president and his team and in the person of Comrade Jerry Rawlings. This new desire to give impulse to our political realities and our relations is a new move to break all barriers and reject division so that the unity of the two peoples becomes a stepping stone for the achievement of African unity. Long Live Upper Volta. Long live Ghana. Long live African unity. [end recording]

ANGOLA

Security Minister Issues Anniversary Message

MB290858 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Message sent by Minister of State Security Colonel Juliao Mateus Paulo to all security officials on eighth anniversary of creation of security organs — date not given]

[Text] It has been 8 years now since the state security organs were created on 29 November 1975 as a result of the emergence of the People's Republic of Angola, with the objective of, first, the defense of party interests and, second, state interests. Comrades, on this eighth anniversary of the creation of the security organs in the People's Republic of Angola there are very difficult circumstances. Our internal enemies continue to intensify their acts of barbarism and vandalism. They have massacred defenseless civilians and have foiled a number of important economic objectives in an attempt to suffocate the Angolan revolution.

At the international level, the Reagan administration is determined to create even more areas of tension in Africa, the Middle East, and particularly in Latin America, where reactionary forces have invaded and occupied Grenada, a sovereign and independent country which was peacefully building a new life. The U.S. Administration has also carried out provocations in other countries of this region, such as Cuba and Nicaragua. We repudiate the crime committed by the invading American troops against the Cuban internationalists who, at the request of the Grenadian Government, were aiding in the socioeconomic development of that country.

In Africa, the South African racists have increased their destabilizing actions against the frontline states, particularly against the People's Republic of Angola. In view of those Machiavellian actions by imperialism and its lackeys, it is our duty to defend the revolution with every means at our disposal so that we can fulfill the ideals of the reconstruction of the country and the well-being of our people. Our forces, fulfilling the call by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the commander in chief, must carry out a relentless struggle against the UNITA puppets and others, with the aim of isolating them from the people until they are completely annihilated. This struggle is also aimed against the South African racists. In this regard we must continuously raise the level of discipline, vigilance, and combat readiness of the forces.

We have been successful in our work, particularly in the detection and dismantling of the clandestine networks of the puppet gangs, mainly UNITA, in the main cities of the central and southern parts of the country, thus showing our loyalty to the Angolan people, the MPLA-Labor Party, and the dear Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. On the occasion of the eighth anniversary of the creation of security organs, I hail and congratulate all officers, sergeants, soldiers, and workers, particularly the combatants of the fighting units who are involved in the campaign against the bandits, and the Angolan border guard troops who are fighting the infiltration and are involved in the elimination of the puppet groups and the invading South African racists. I also hail the internationalist comrades who have been suffering together with us the aggressiveness of international imperialism.

In this year ahead we must allow more sacrifices. I call upon officers, sergeants, soldiers, and workers to combat and annihilate counterrevolution with more hatred, firmness, bravery, and dedication, thus fulfilling the difficult but honorable task that the party and the revolution have assigned to us.

The struggle continues! Victory is certain!

AFP: UNITA Statement on 16-20 Nov Operations

AB281515 Paris AFP in English 1500 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Lisbon, Nov 28 (AFP) — UNITA rebels fighting the government in Angola claimed today to have killed 264 Angolan soldiers and 20 Cubans during guerrilla operations between November 16 and 20. In a statement received here, UNITA said 14 of its own combatants had been killed and 36 wounded over the same period.

The UNITA movement, led by Jonas Savimbi, also claimed responsibility for taking prisoner 16 government soldiers, including one officer, destroying 42 military vehicles and seizing numerous weapons. The statement said the operations took place in seven Angolan provinces: Malanje, Cuanza Norte, Cuanza Sul, Cuando-Cubango, Huambo, Luanda and Bie.

MALAWI

Port Management Association Meeting Opens 28 Nov

MB281838 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Malawi has called for sustained unity among members of the Port Management Association for East and Southern Africa in order to facilitate social, political, and economic development in the region. The call was made by a senior official from the Ministry of Transport and Communications when he officially opened the 11th council meeting of the association in Blantyre today. The official stressed that it should be the duty of the association to ensure that there is better cooperation between maritime countries and landlocked ones so as to sustain meaningful interdependence among the member-countries.

He urged delegates to devote their time to identifying problems facing the shipping industry and to cooperate in arriving at and adopting decisions which, he said, would benefit all member-countries. The association, whose main objective is to establish a close and permanent relationship between port authorities and the subregions, was formed in 1973. Delegates to the Blantyre meeting have come from several countries, including Seychelles, Somalia, Ethiopia, Djubouti, Kenya, and Malawi.

MOZAMBIQUE

President Machel Visits Cabo Delgado Province

MB281857 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] President Samora Machel arrived in Pemba yesterday afternoon and was received at the local airport by Lieutenant General Alberto Chipande, member of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau and Central Committee and leader of Cabo Delgado Province. Also present at Pemba airport were other members of the party and government in that province. The Mozambique head of state was greeted by the Pemba residents, who sang cultural songs. The supreme leader of Mozambique revolution abandoned protocol and joined the population in singing revolutionary songs, after which he was driven to his residence.

East Timor Official Holds Press Conference

MB281706 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] The foreign minister of the Democratic Republic of East Timor gave a press conference in Maputo today to mark the eighth anniversary of the proclamation of his country's independence. Mari Alkatiri pointed out that the celebrations marking the anniversary were important in that they were being held in a year when the leadership of the Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor [Fretilin] has mounted a strategic counteroffensive and a national unity campaign. It was just this year, after the start of the strategic counteroffensive, that Fretilin was able to force Indonesia to recognize its existence. The Government of Indonesia for the first time solicited direct talks with Fretilin, and a cease-fire agreement was established. The East Timor foreign minister recalled, however, that this agreement was later violated by Indonesia, when it launched a large-scale operation against Fretilin positions. This operation ended in failure toward the end of last September. Foreign Minister Mari Alkatiri also revealed that during this period when the eighth anniversary of East Timor independence is being celebrated, Indonesia has launched another large-scale operation.

USSR Donates Clothes, Textiles After Talks

MB290930 Maputo Domestic Service in Porutugese 1700 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] The USSR has donated to Mozambique clothes, textiles, and other articles worth 10 million rubles, which is about 600,000 contos, to support agricultural production. The donation was made following talks held in Maputo 11-18 November 1983 between delegations from Mozambique and the USSR led by Marcelo Andrade, the national planning director, and Yuriy Minayev, deputy chief of the Trade With African Countries Administration in the Soviet Foreign Trade Ministry. In a note sent to our newsdesk, the National Planning Commission pointed out that the Soviet donation was within the framework of relations between the two countries and constituted an important contribution in the implementation of the decisions of the Fourth Frelimo Party Congress. The source added that the talks between the two countries' delegations took place in an atmosphere of friendship and solidarity.

Views on Traditional Social Practices Sought

MB281854 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] A meeting in a Maputo suburb to discuss traditional social practices in Mozambique has been told they have an opportunity to correct mistakes made by the Frleimo Party in formulating national social policy after independence. (Maria Florencia Temba), a member of the National Women's Organization [OMM], told a group of about 500 men and women yesterday that Frelimo and the OMM have been calling for the abolition of practices like bride price, initiation rites, and poligamy without first going to the people. This meeting and hundreds of others being held all over Mozambique give a chance to correct that mistake, (Maria Temba) said. It is a chance to tell the party and the OMM what the people want to do about traditional practices, she said. The meeting is a part of preparations for the OMM's extraordianry conference to be held in 1984 as a prelude to formulating new social policy.

SOUTH AFRICA

Reportage on Foreign Minister's Visit to W. Europe

For reportage on the visit by RSA Foreign Affairs and Information Minister Roelof Botha to Portugal and the FRG, see the 29 November Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

SWAZILAND

Three Women Detained on Sedition Charges

MB281240 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 28 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Ex-Judge Douglas Lukhele's daughter, Mrs Bonisiwe Bello, and two other prominent women have been detained under the 60 days detention order.

The other two detainees are: Mrs Mary Khanya, a senior educationist, and Mrs Cynthia Nkosi, the wife of Mr D.T. Nkosi who is public relations officer for Coca Cola.

Mrs Bello is a business woman who runs a boutique in Manzini and Mrs Khanya is a senior inspector of science in the Ministry of Education.

The trio were arrested in separate police swoops last month and held on a holding charge of sedition.

They have appeared in court on separate remand hearings and Mrs Khanya was released on bail. But the charges of sedition had not been formally put to them in court and they had not been asked to plead.

Mrs Khanya is alleged to have printed and distributed subversive pamphlets critical to the authorised person, Prince Sozisa.

The police said they had finished thier investigations in respect of all the three women. They were due to appear in court on November 21.

It was not clear whether or not the sedition charges will be pressed or whether they will be dropped now that they are 60-days detainees.

It has not been disclosed whether or not their detentions have anything to do with the pamphlets allegations.

Meanwhile, Mrs Bello's father is now serving his second detention term after a renewal of the order last month. Also detained are Mr Arthur Khoza, Prince Sulumlomo and Prince Thunduluka.

The three women are the first to be held under the 60 days detention order since the 1973 king's proclamation which rescinded the Westminister constitution and introduced the 60 days detention order.

ZIMBABWE

Commentary Hails Mugabe Statement on Grenada

MB290658 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has once again shown his political farsightedness by warning his fellow Commonwealth leaders of the dangers posed by the U.S. invasion of the island of Grenada. Comrade Mugabe, whose political analysis is always realistic, knows that the pretext used by the Reagan administration to invade Grenada — that it did so to protect its nationals — can be used by the Botha regime to continue invading independent African states in southern Africa. This analysis needs to be examined very carefully. International imperialism uses various methods to achieve its goals and objectives.

It is known that the Botha regime is propped up by international imperialism to continue with its oppressive and inhuman policies of apartheid. Destabilization is the current tactic being used by imperialism to destroy progressive governments in Latin America, the Caribbean, and Africa. It is hoped that the observation of Comrade Mugabe needs to be closely (?related) to what is taking place in southern Africa. When the United States invaded Grenada, the pretext used was the protection of its nationals, but to us the unstated intention was clear: The United States wants to continue to increase its sphere of influence and, indeed, control. Once there is a puppet regime in a country, then the United States and all agencies of imperialism strike, thus bringing to naught efforts to establish progressive people's governments. The invasion of a state is only a final stage. This is preceded by a number of precipitating factors.

In southern Africa we already can see and detect these precipitating factors. The latest prelude to this well organized international conspiracy to destabilize and, indeed, to destroy progressive governments in southern Africa is a revelation in yesterday's *SUNDAY MAIL* that Western powers are engaged in an arms embargo against frontline states. The reason behind this is obvious. If the frontline states cannot get arms from the West, they will get them from the East. When they take this (?justifiable) position, then they are branded enemies of the West. The West wants the frontline states to be weak military and economically. Should there be a difference of opinion between East and West, and when the frontline states keep their (?known) nonaligned position, the West will use the Botha regime to install puppet regimes which will become megaphones of their master. This is why we believe that the warning given by the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, is both timely and extremely important. This is also why we need to draw the attention of the people of Zimbabwe to yet another precipitating factor in this well organized international conspiracy against progressive people's governments in southern Africa — the sabotaging of their social and economic life.

In Zimbabwe, Angola, and Mozambique the menace of bandits sponsored and organized by the Pretoria regime, with the aim of removing and replacing the legitimate people's governments with puppet regimes, is a well known imperialist maneuver. Recently we noticed that peculiar pattern of behavior among certain sectors of our society. We refer particularly to squatters and prostitutes. We do not look at squatting and prostitution as isolated social evils. In our view the enemies of Zimbabwe — and indeed the enemies of all progressive governments — try to use every aspect of the society's life to carry out their policies of destabilization. Prostitution is, of course, a social evil of a decadent capitalist society, but the enemy looks for such breeding ground to carry out his dirty work. The enemy also looks for such social evils to create chaos in our midst.

When the government decided to rehabilitate squatters and prostitutes, these objectives are in line with efforts to remove from our midst any breeding ground of the enemies' progress. If such evils are allowed to take root, then the enemy finds fertile ground to sow his seeds of discord and confusion. When the government implements its well thought out policies and plans, certain misguided enemies instead distort the objectives when asked to round up social misfits. The reason for such behavior among these misguided elements is to serve the interests of their masters. The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, has proved to all that even if international imperialism can sugarcoat its wicked plans, we can still see them. So [it] goes for those in Zimbabwe who are given noble goals to implement by our government but choose to use the opportunity to further the interest of their master. We know how the arms caches were uncovered and how several other wicked plans aimed at derailing the revolutionary forces we have set into motion were unmasked. This is why we continue to call upon those who have jumped on the bandwagon of the vanguard party of our revolution, ZANU-PF, to truly transform.